dragon sister!™

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two

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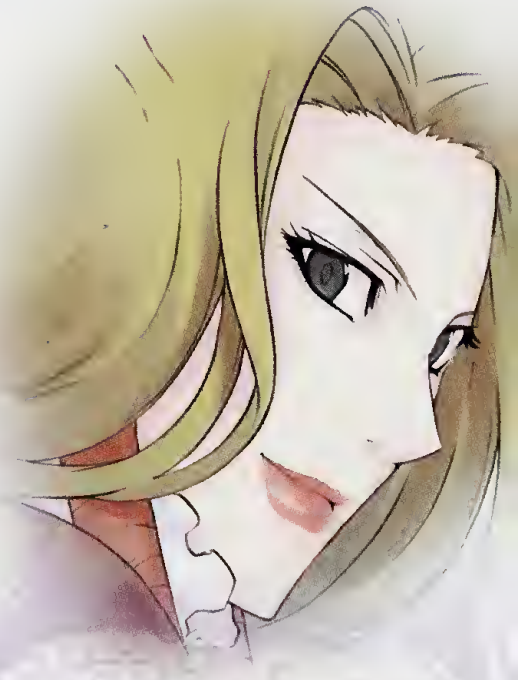

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DRAGON STAR!
トラゴンスター!
2

In 184 C.E. (common era), the mighty Han Dynasty, which had ruled China for nearly 400 years, was coming to an end. Corruption in the government led to a steady decline in its ability to function, triggering the Huang Jin Rebellion (Yellow Turban Rebellion). According to the romanticized version of history, the brothers Zhang Jiao, Zhang Bao and Zhang Liang, who started the rebellion, gained mystical powers from sacred scrolls called the Essential Arts of Peace. But in the world of *Dragon Sister!,* history went awry when Zhang Jiao wished for the scrolls to cause all future heroes of the land to be born as women—also changing the three brothers into women in retribution!

Years later, the Huang Jin rebel army has devolved into lawless bandits who terrorize the common people they originally set out to serve. Guan Yu and Zhang Fei want to sign up to fight the rebels—but because they were born as women, no army will take them! When they meet straw mat–seller Liu Bei just in time to jointly fend off a Huang Jin raiding party, it is a destined gathering of kindred spirits. Swearing that though they were born separately, they will all die together as siblings, the three pledge their lives to the defense of their country and people. Thus Guan Yu and Zhang Fei become sisters of the Dragon—the meaning of the surname *Liu*.

Impressed by their valor, villagers begin flocking to their cause, forming a volunteer army with Liu Bei at its head. Though they number only 500 strong, they manage to win a significant battle against the Huang Jin, impressing Cao Cao of the Loyalist Army, whose forces arrive too late for the main fight. When they join up with the Loyalist camp, Guan Yu and Zhang Fei catch the eye of the beautiful General Dong Zhuo. She says that the volunteer army's commander will get an official appointment if the two women agree to serve her, but Liu Bei refuses her outright. Guan Yu and Zhang Fei, however, fearing that this may be the only way their brother will get the important post he deserves, submit themselves to the General. Liu Bei tries to get them back, but Dong Zhuo will free them only if he manages to accomplish something significant in the coming attack. Abandoned by the rest of his volunteers, Liu Bei doesn't know his task has been made even more difficult by Dong Zhuo's secret order that he be killed amid the chaos of battle...

Liu Bei (Xuande)

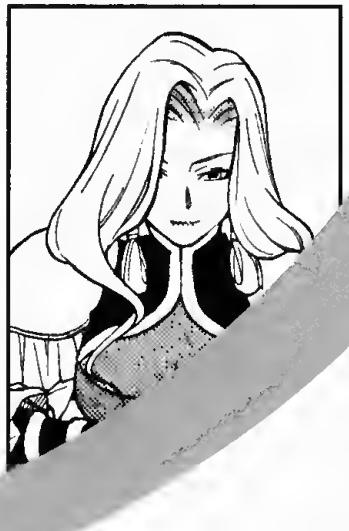
Guan Yu (Yunchang)

Zhang Fei (Yide)

Cao Cao (Mengde)

Zhang "Brothers"

Dong Zhuo



DO YOU KNOW YOUR THREE KINGDOMS ?

CONTENTS

Chapter Five
BLOODY WASTELAND,
ILLUMINATED BATTLEFIELD.....8

Chapter Six
FLASH ON THE BATTLEFIELD,
LU FENGXIAN.....39

Chapter Seven
DONG ZHUO GAINS THE BEAST,
LIU BEI FALLS FROM POWER.....67

Chapter Eight
WANDERING THROUGH THE WILDERNESS,
LIU BEI MEETS THE SLEEPING DRAGON.....97

Chapter Nine
LUOYANG, THE IMPERIAL CITY OF DEVASTATION, THE
WILL OF THE HEAVENS FLOWS THROUGH LIU BEI.....131

Chapter Ten
INVASION, BLOOD AND FLAMES,
DONG ZHUO TAKES THE CAPITAL.....159

DRAGON SISTER!
ドラゴンシスター！

三國志百花繚乱 2

Presented by nini

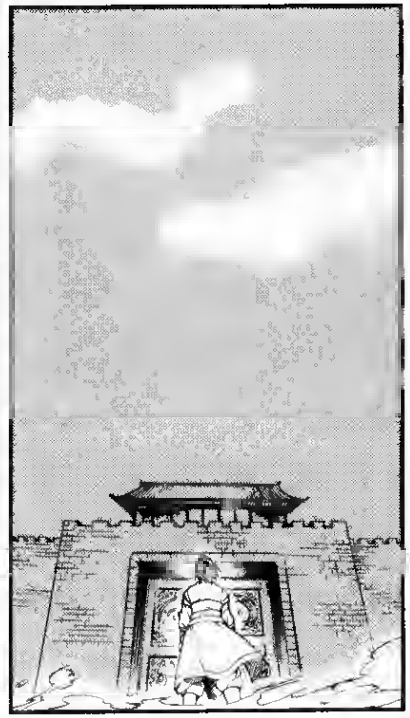
キッ

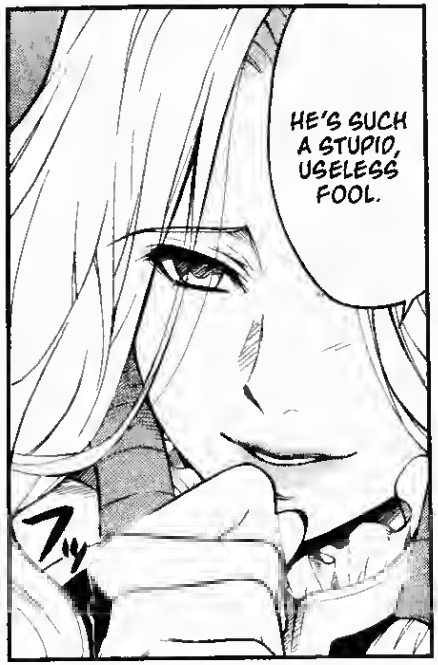
JUST AS I PREDICTED! LIU BEI DOESN'T HAVE WHAT IT TAKES!

!!!

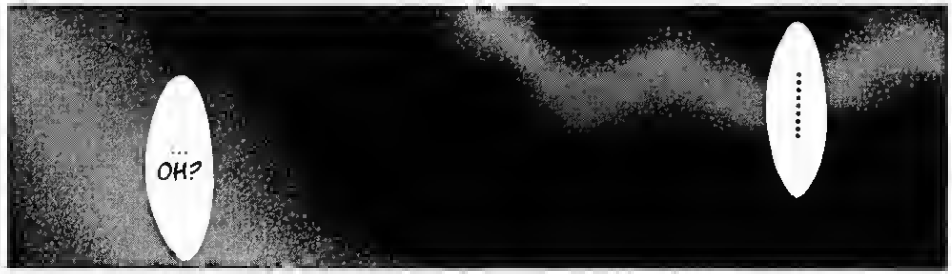
HE'S A FOOL TO CONFRONT THE HUANG JIN ALONE.
HE WON'T LAST FIVE MINUTES.

REMEMBER YOUR PLACE, CHILD!




HE'S SUCH A STUPID, USELESS FOOL.
フッ

PITIFUL, ISN'T IT?


.....
...
OH?

.....

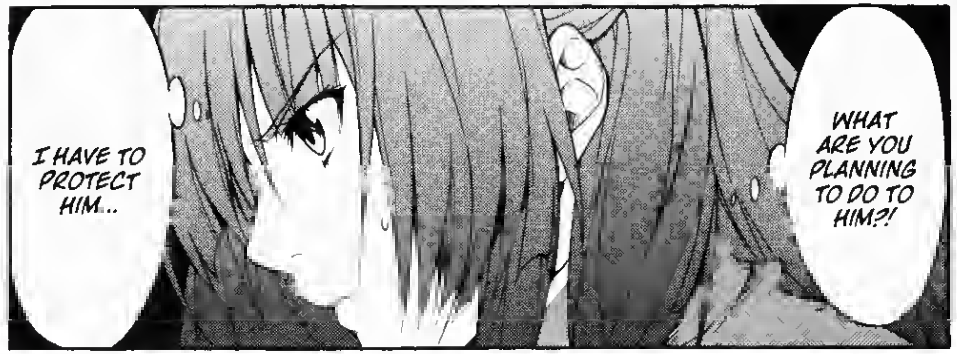
WE WANT TO CONTRIBUTE TO YOUR SPLENDID VICTORY!
IF I CAN JUST GET ONTO THE BATTLEFIELD...

MY, HOW IMPATIENT YOU ARE!
BUT FOR NOW, YOU MAY WATCH FROM HERE.

XU RONG
..TAKE THESE TWO TO THE BACK AND DON'T LET THEM OUT OF YOUR SIGHT.

?!

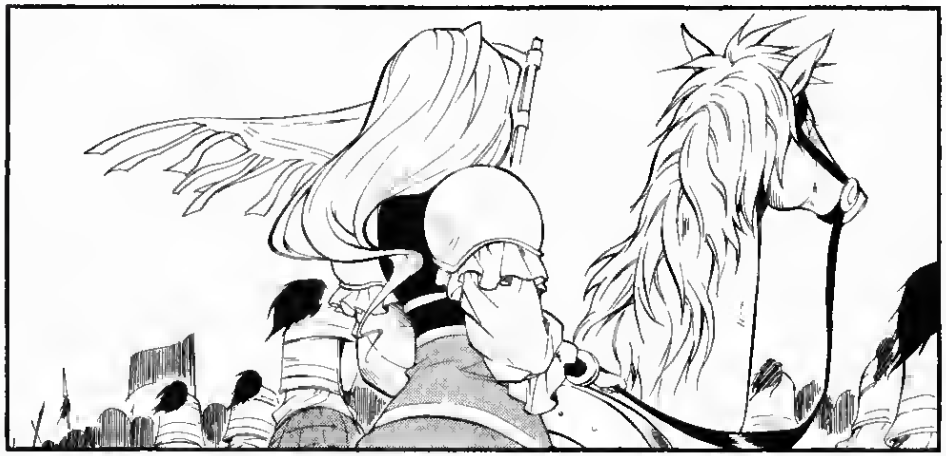
AND IF BY SOME MIRACLE HE DOES SURVIVE...

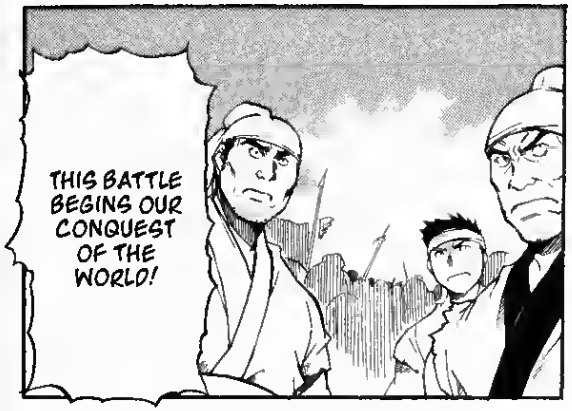

I HAVE TO PROTECT HIM...
WHAT ARE YOU PLANNING TO DO TO HIM?!

ZHANG FEI AND I
...WISH TO FIGHT TOO.

LADY DONG ZHUO.

ドンドンドンドンドン
ドンドンドンドンドン

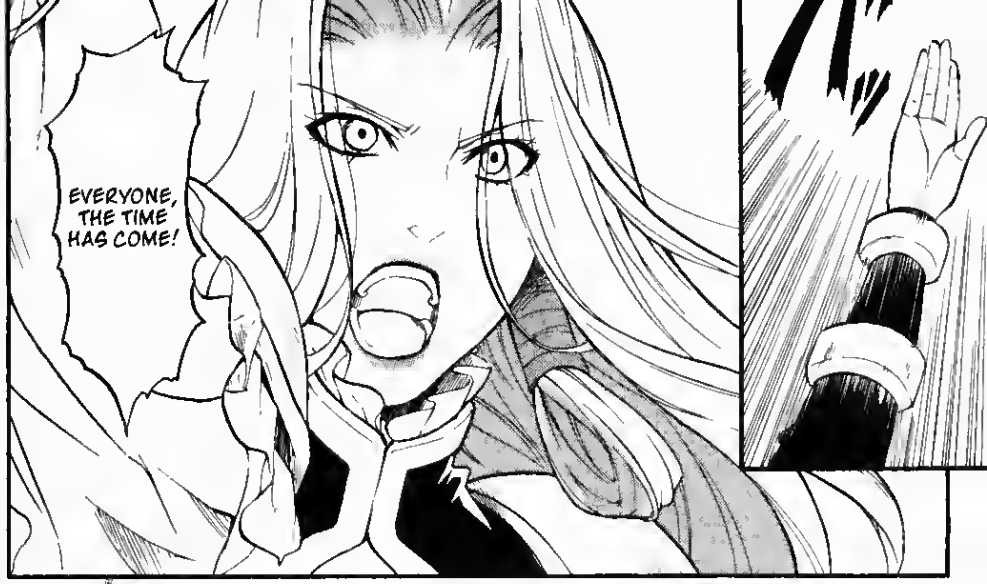



THIS BATTLE BEGINS OUR CONQUEST OF THE WORLD!

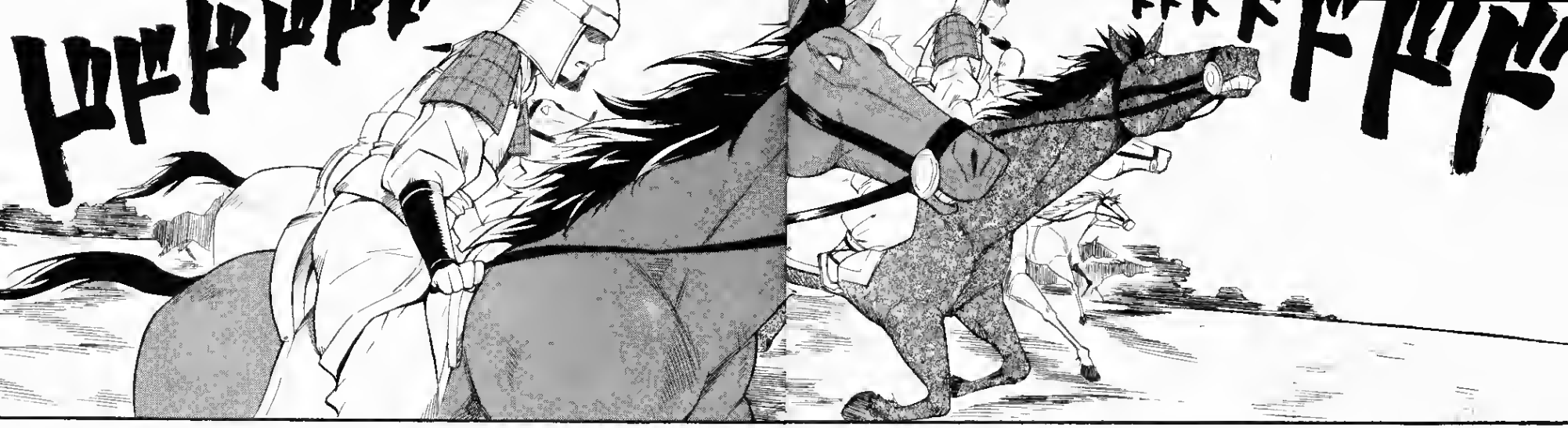
ばっ
PEOPLE OF THE HUANG JIN!

オォオオオォ
OUR ERA SHALL COME...
...WITH OUR VICTORY OVER THE IMPERIAL ARMY!!

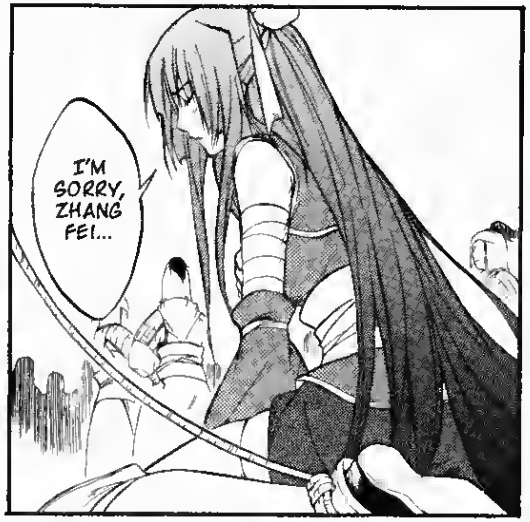
Chapter Five
BLOODY WASTELAND, ILLUMINATED BATTLEFIELD

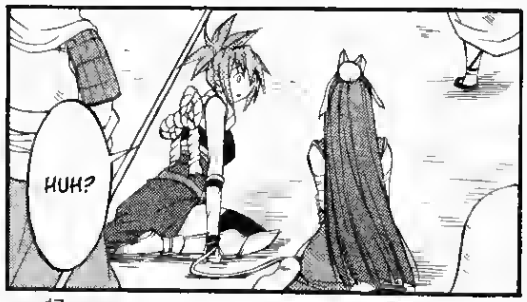

EVERYONE, THE TIME HAS COME!

オオオ
MOVE OUT!
SHOW THEM THE DEADLY FORCE OF DONG ZHUO'S CAVALRY!
THE IMPERIAL FORCE WILL SUPPRESS THESE REBELS!

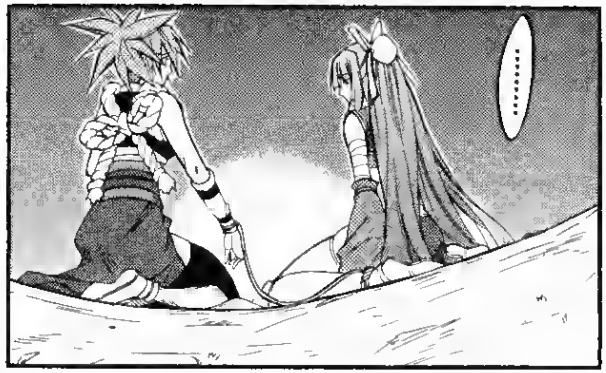

ドドドドド
ドドドドド

IF I'D BEEN MORE CAREFUL..
..I COULD HAVE GOTTEN TO OUR BROTHER WITHOUT DONG ZHUO NOTICING ...


I'M SORRY, ZHANG FEI...


HUH?

THEY'D BETTER NOT TRAMPLE OUR BROTHER!
DAMN!
ヒ!


.....

?!
WHAT A LARGE NUMBER OF CAVALRY!

I PLEADED WITH DONG ZHUO TO LET US FIGHT TOO...

BUT.. I COULDN'T JUST WATCH HIM STANDING THERE.

GUAN YU

IF YOU HADN'T SPOKEN UP, I WOULD HAVE!
ドン

SO WHAT ?
IF WE COULD ONLY HELP OUR BROTHER

HE'S GOT US LOOKING OUT FOR HIM, RIGHT?!

HE'S GOING TO BE ALL RIGHT!

OH PLEASE! HAVE SOME FAITH IN HIM ...
...AND IN YOUR-SELF!

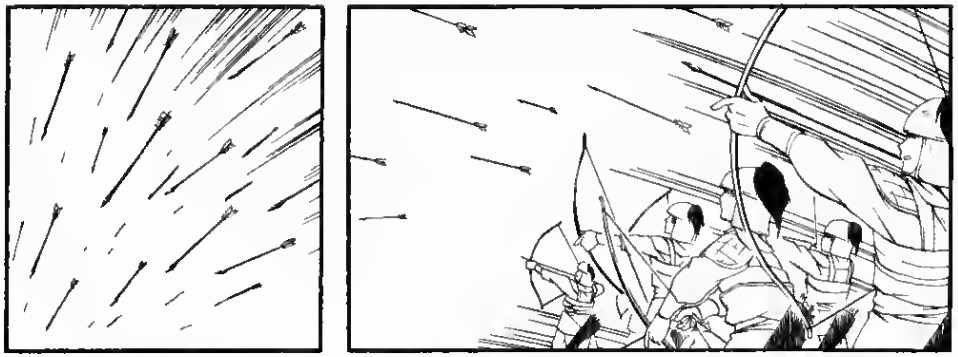
BUT WE CAN'T EVEN...

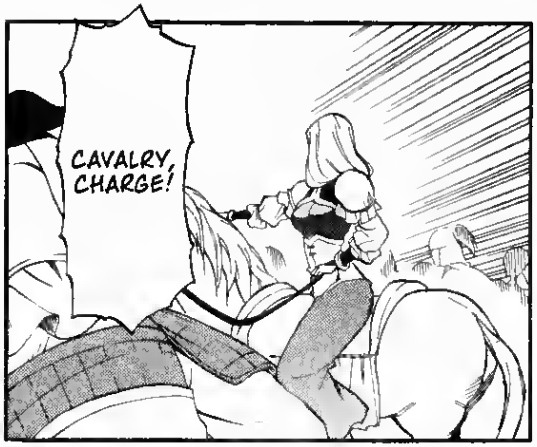
RIGHT!

.....

ギィィィ
CHARGE!
スッ

ドドド
ドドド



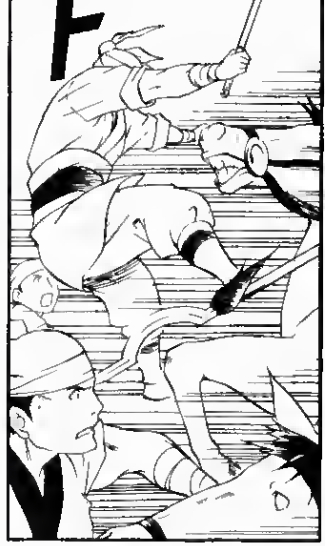

CAVALRY, CHARGE!

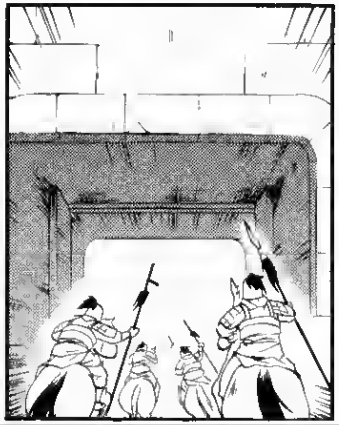
ARCHERS, OPEN A PATH WITH THE NEXT VOLLEY!

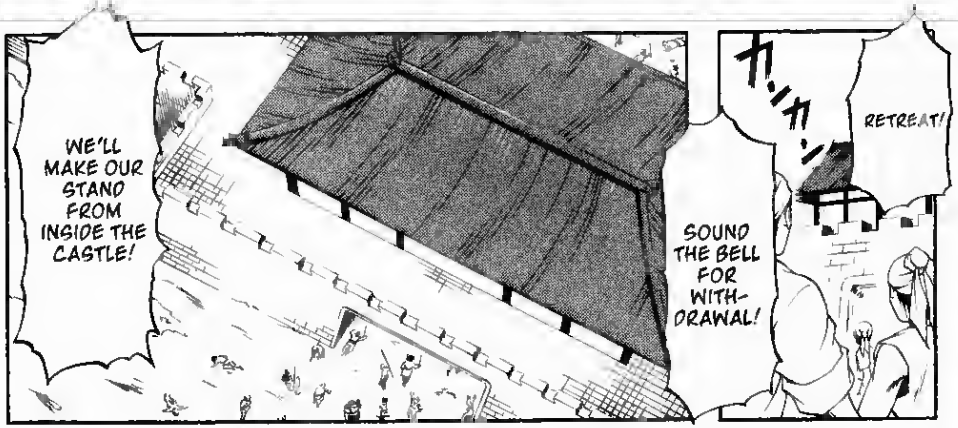
ドドドドドド

DAMN...
AT THIS RATE THEY'RE TO WIPE US ALL OUT!
OUR UNTRAINED SOLDIERS ARE NO MATCH FOR THE IMPERIAL ARMY...
Sigh...

CHASE THEM BACK TO THE CASTLE GATES!
DON'T LET THEIR INFANTRY GET AWAY!



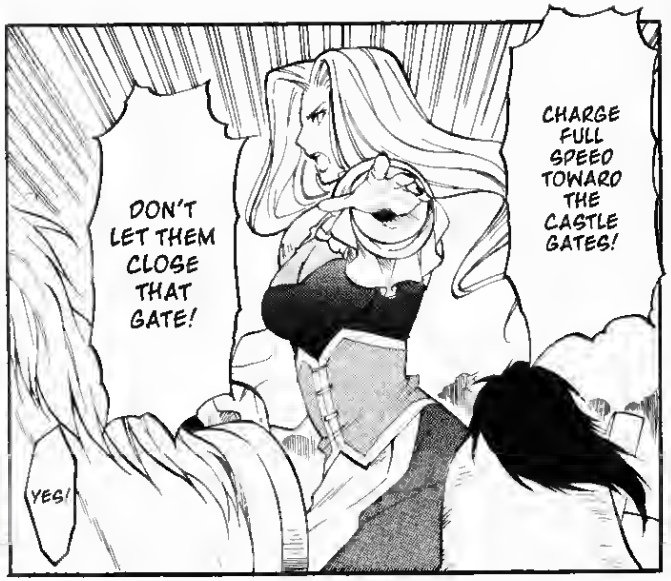



WE'LL MAKE OUR STAND FROM INSIDE THE CASTLE!
SOUND THE BELL FOR WITH-DRAWAL!
カンカン
RETREAT!

THIS IS THE MIGHTY IMPERIAL ARMY? IT'S A MASSACRE!

THEY'RE COM-PLETELY OUT-NUM-BERED

BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!


CHARGE FULL SPEED TOWARD THE CASTLE GATES!
DON'T LET THEM CLOSE THAT GATE!
YES!

HERALD!
HERALD!

RETREAT ?!
IF THEY MAKE IT BACK INSIDE
...

THE HUANG JIN ARE RE-TREATING INTO THE CASTLE!

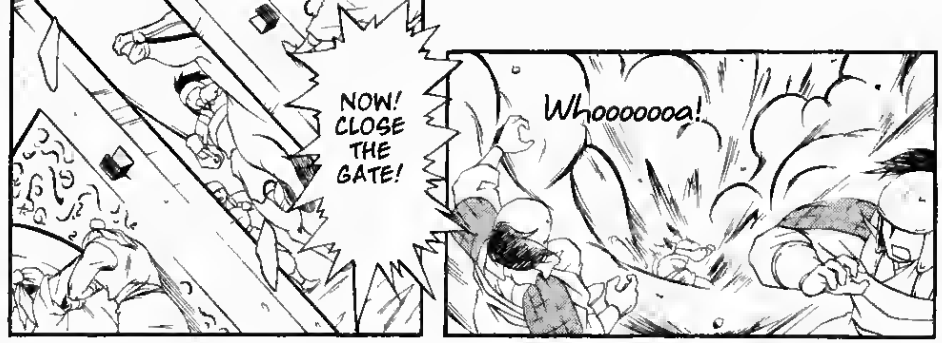
DAMN... IF THEY'RE ALL WALLED UP, MY CAVALRY IS USELESS...
.....
LADY DONG ZHUO!

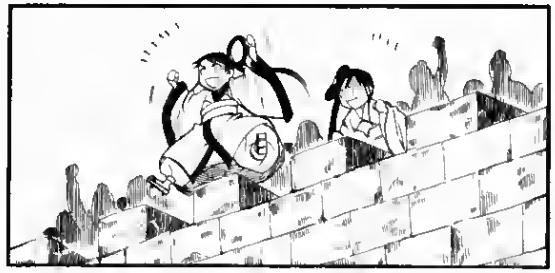
TAKE THAT!
ドドドドド
ドドドドド
ドドドドド
ドドドドド

AH HA HA HA, LOSERS!

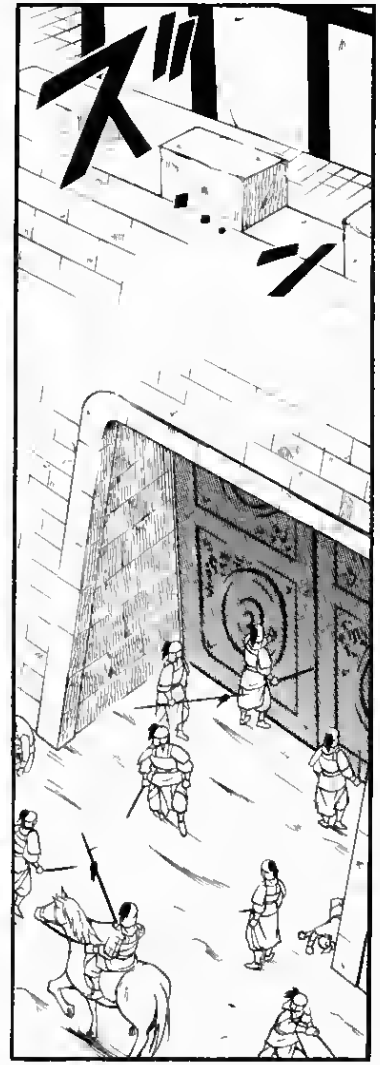
ANYONE FOOLISH ENOUGH TO TRY WILL HAVE TO DEAL WITH OUR MAGIC!
AND THEY'LL NEVER GET THROUGH THE GATES.
ARROWS CAN'T MAKE IT THROUGH THESE WALLS!

LET'S SHOW THEM OUR IMMENSE POWER.
THAT'S RIGHT
NOW WE HAVE THE TIME NEEDED TO CAST SPELLS!


NOW! CLOSE THE GATE!
Whoooooog!



SOR-CERY?
DAMN THEM ...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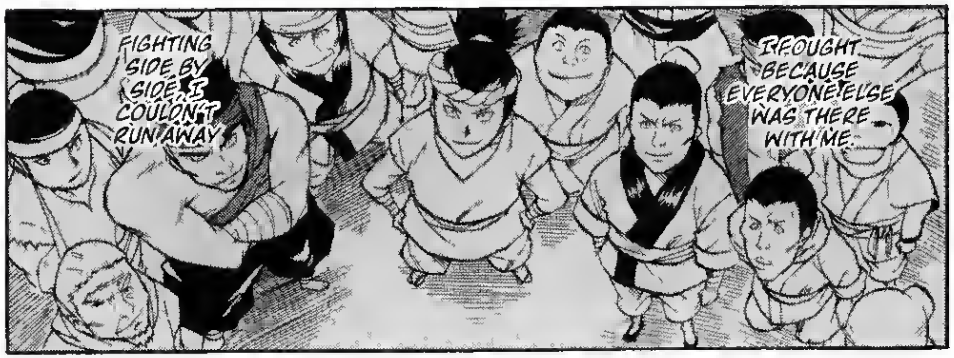
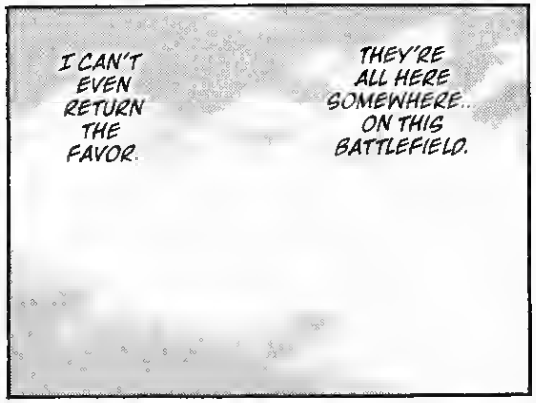
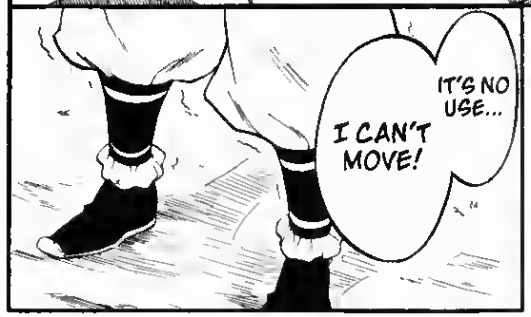

FIGHTING SIDE BY SIDE, I COULDN'T RUN AWAY.
I FOUGHT BECAUSE EVERYONE ELSE WAS THERE WITH ME.

I'LL NEVER BE LIKE GUAN YU OR ZHANG FEI, BUT...
...I HAVE TO DO SOMETHING!


I CAN'T EVEN RETURN THE FAVOR.
THEY'RE ALL HERE SOMEWHERE... ON THIS BATTLEFIELD.

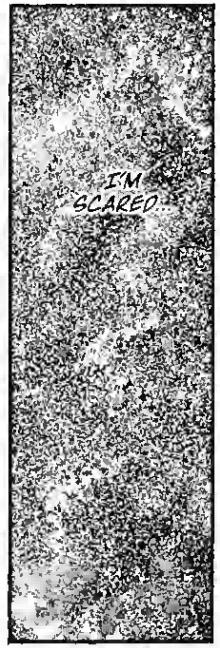
GUAN YU, ZHANG FEI... ALL THE VILLAGERS WHO FOLLOWED ME HERE...
...AND ALL I CAN DO IS STAND HERE...

ズン…


I CAN'T MOVE!
IT'S NO USE...

ON MY OWN...

WHAT CAN I DO BY MYSELF? WHAT DID I THINK I COULD ACCOMPLISH?

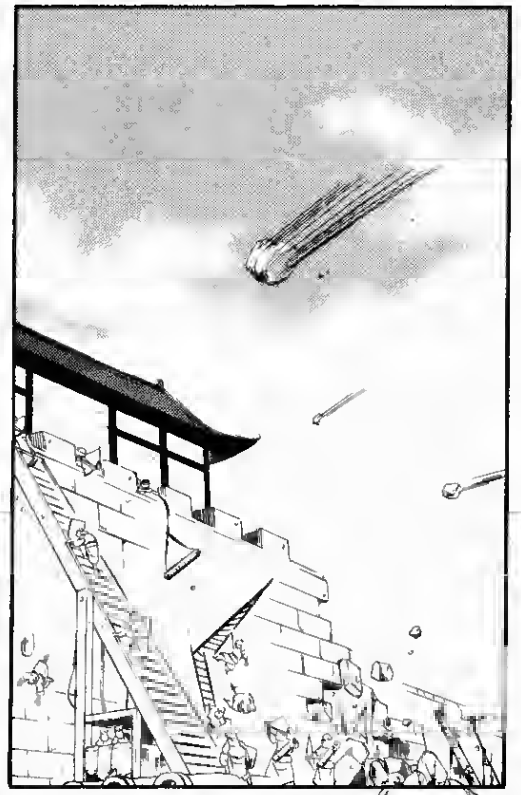

I'M SCARED...

Urgh

YOU CAN'T LAUNCH A PERSON! MOVE IT SO WE CAN LOAD THE NEXT STONE!
PFT! WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?!

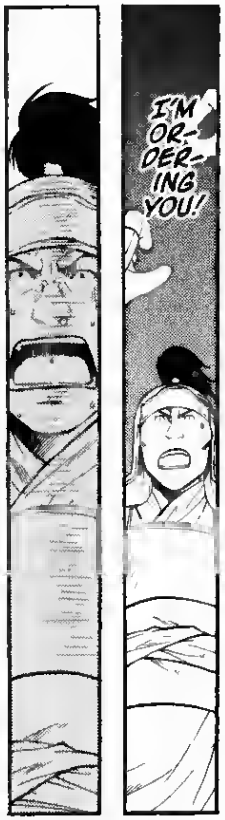
Silence

LOAD THE NEXT STONE! DON'T LET UP THE ASSAULT!



HOLD IT!

Aaaaah...
あああああ...

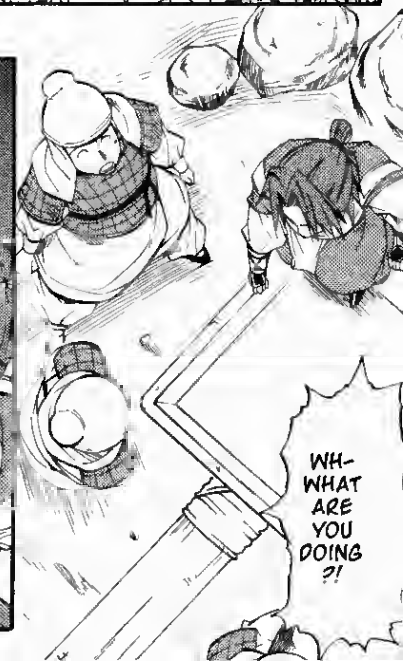

I'M OR-ING YOU!

ドーン

ヒュ〜

ビュ〜〜
I... I WANT YOU TO...
...LAUNCH ME OVER THERE!

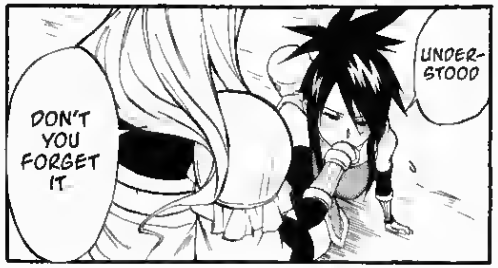
ヒュ!

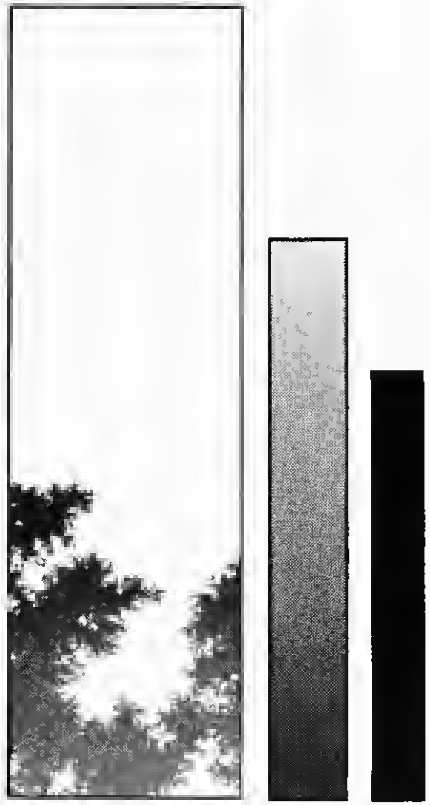

WH-WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!

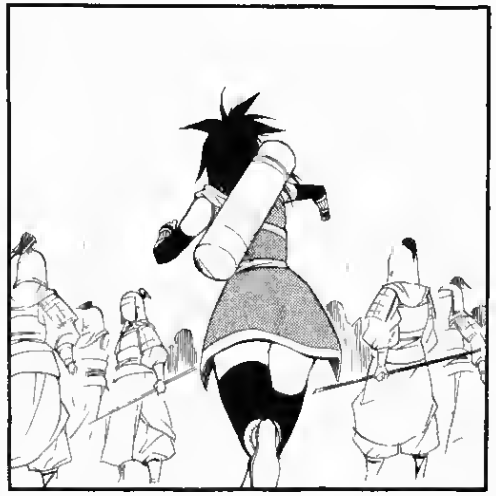
ゴロゴロ!!
WHAT?!
??
TIME TO SHOW THIS SCUM--
HA! OUR MAGIC WILL STOP THEM!
HEY! LOOK AT THAT!
HMPH.
DO YOU THINK THEY CAN SCALE THE WALLS?!
MM-HM!
PREPARE A VOLLEY OF ARROWS!
OUR SORCERY WILL CONTROL THE WINDS! RAIN ARROWS DOWN UPON THEM!
EVERYONE, TAKE UP ARROWS!
WHAT IS THAT?!

LADY DONG ZHUO!
WHAT IS IT, XU RONG?
W-WELL..
LIU BEI IS CAUSING SOME TROUBLE!
.....
OH...? PERHAPS HE'LL SURPRISE ME.
HE'S USING OUR CATA-PULT..
IT'S AS IF...HE WANTS TO LAUNCH HIMSELF!
BUT WE CAN'T HAVE THOSE LITTLE SORCERERS GETTING HOLD OF HIM.
OOOH...
THAT IDIOT STUMBLED ON AN INTER-ESTING IDEA...
KILL HIM. ♥
XU RONG.
YES.
YES, MA'AM!

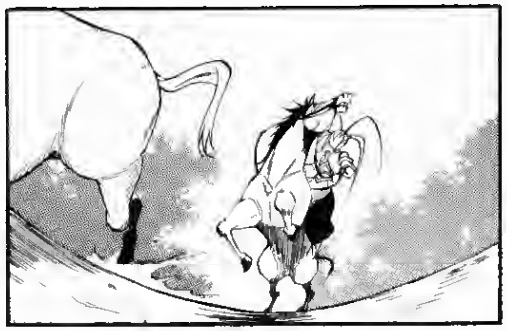
FAILURE
...IS NOT AN OPTION.


UNDER-STOOD
DON'T YOU FORGET IT





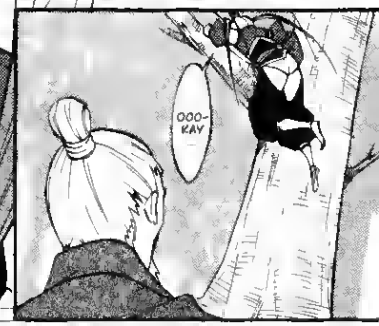
?
FA-THER!



SMELLS LIKE WAR UP AHEAD!

WHAT IS IT?

Chapter Six
FLASH ON THE BATTLEFIELD
LU FENGXIAN



DRAGON SISTER!
ドラゴンシスター!!
三國志百花繚乱

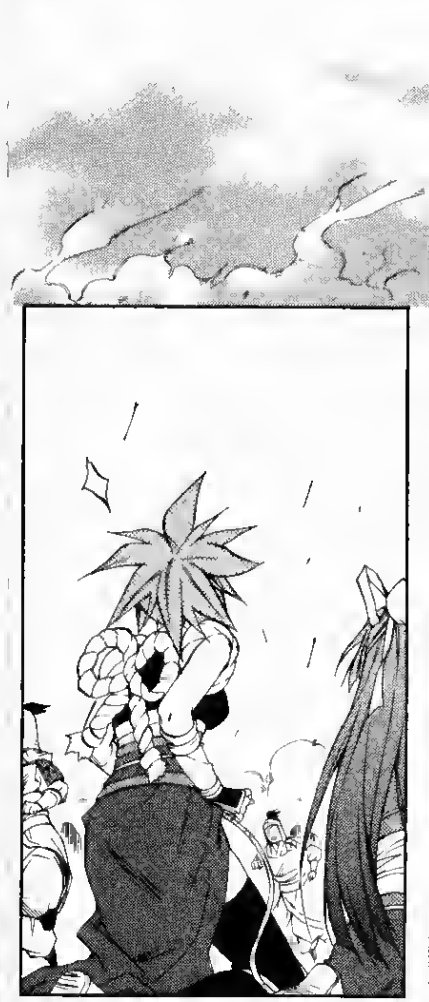
YET... SOMETHING DOESN'T FEEL RIGHT...
EVEN IF HE MAKES IT OVER... WHAT COULD HE POSSIBLY DO?!
READY TO FIRE!!
AAAHHH!
HEY, QUIT STANDING AROUND AND FIRE THE ARROWS!
ゴゴゴゴゴ
rumble
?!!
?
ZHANG LIANG, LOOK! THAT IDIOT! HE'S GOING TO--!

GO TO HELL, IMPE-RIALIST SCUM!
AH HA HA HA! HAVE A TASTE OF MY POWER TOO!
AH! IT'S RAINING ARROWS
STAY BACK !!!
WE CAN'T BEAT THIS KIND OF SORCERY!
RE-TREAT!

ZHAN FEI, THIS IS...
DAMN COWARDS!
W-WAIT A SEC!

I UNDERSTAND, BUT
VIOLATE MY ORDERS AND YOU'LL BE PUNISHED!
HALT! I SAID RETURN YOUR POST!
EVERYONE, RETURN TO YOUR POSTS!

OUR CHANCE!
YEAH!


FINE!
DO WHAT YOU WANT!

WE MUST RETREAT, LADY DONG ZHUO...
...WE CAN'T FIGHT SORCERY WITH SWORDS AND SPEARS
?!

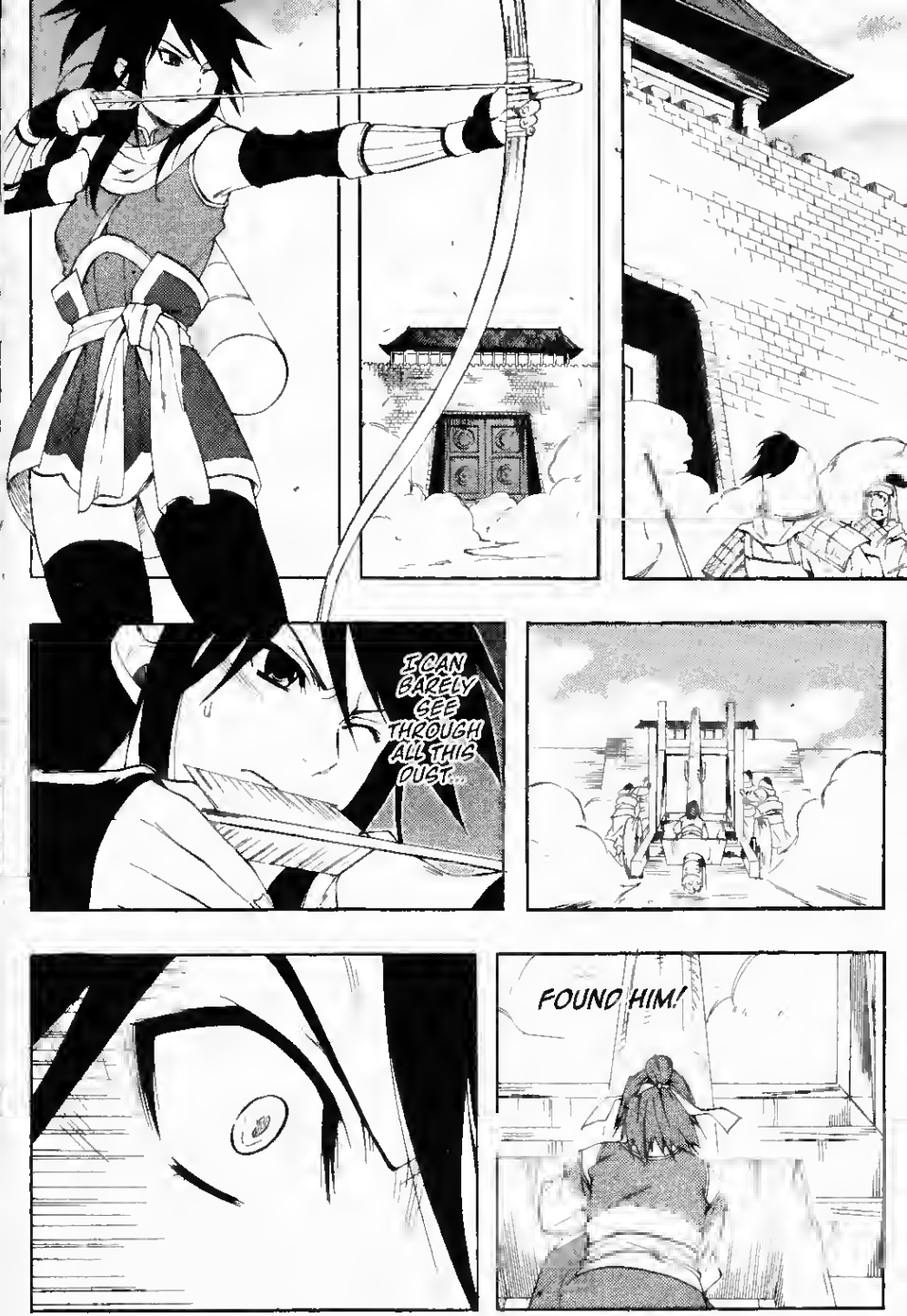
WHAT-EVER!
WE'LL DEAL WITH IT LATER
BUT THE ROPE...

HANG ON TIGHT!
OKAY!
LET'S DO IT!
CAN'T WASTE TIME! WE'LL MISS OUR CHANCE.
UMPH.
WAH!
CHARGE!!
GUAN YU AND ZHANG FEI ARE ESCAPING! SEIZE THEM!
I'M TOO HEAVY!
S-STOP STRUGGLING!
YEAH, BUT...
THEY'RE GOING TO NOTICE!
HEY, WAIT! PUT ME DOWN!
WHILE THE BATTLE'S IN CHAOS!
...THIS IS OUR CHANCE! WHILE EVERYONE'S BUSY SAVING THEIR OWN BUTTS!

IT'S ME! ME!
...OVER?
GUAN YU! ZHANG FEI!
!!
HEY!
I dont care bout Liu Bei
Hmph!
I AIN'T HERE FOR HIM.
THINK I'D GO HOME WHEN YOU GUYS'RE IN TROUBLE?
OH!!
YOU CAME BACK TO HELP LIU BEI!
UH... OOKAY. IS EVERYONE ELSE HERE TOO?
WITH THEIR HELP, WE CAN SAVE OUR BROTHER!
IS IT...
DAMMIT! WE ALMOST MADE IT!

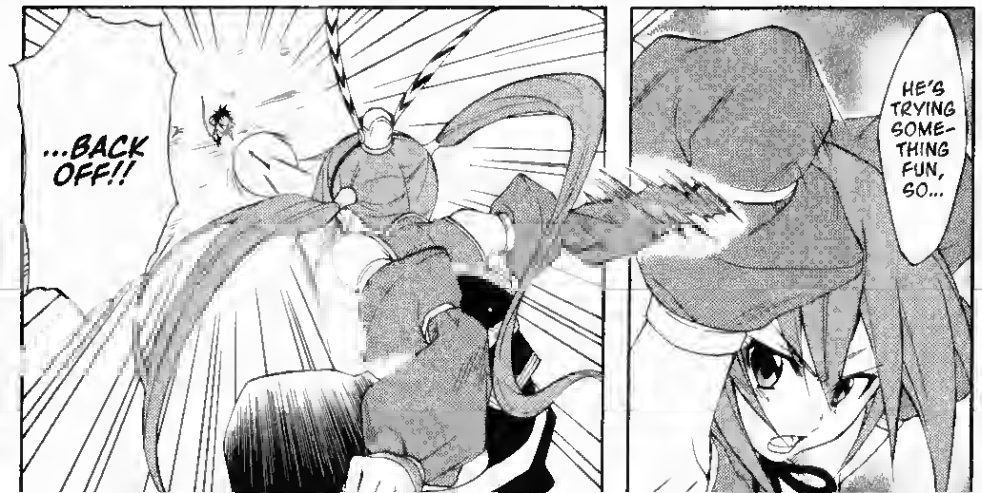
THE VOLUNTEER ARMY'S BACK IN ACTION!
NOW LET'S GO GET OUR LEADER!
THANKS!
YEAH! NOW I CAN REALLY MOVE!
グチ
OUR WEAPONS!
HERE.

ヒュッ
?!!
DIE FOR LADY DONG ZHUO!
ドスッ


I CAN BARELY SEE THROUGH ALL THIS DUST...
FOUND HIM!

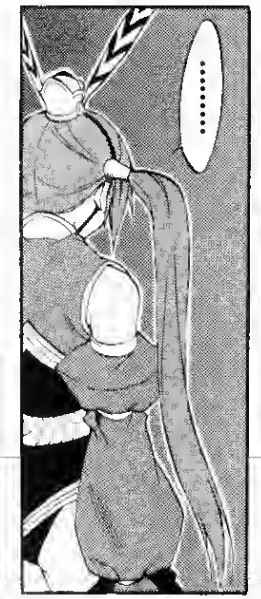
SO?! ARE YOU GONNA RIDE THIS THING?!
ARE YOU GONNA GO ZOOOM INTO THE SKY?!
?!!!
IF SO, THEN ...
ONE OF DONG ZHUO'S UNDER-LINGS?!
W-WELL ...
DID YA THINK OF THIS COOL IDEA YOUR-SELF?
じたばた
DO IT!
HURRY UP! DO IT! DO IT!
じたばた

DAMN YOU, LIU BEI!
!!!

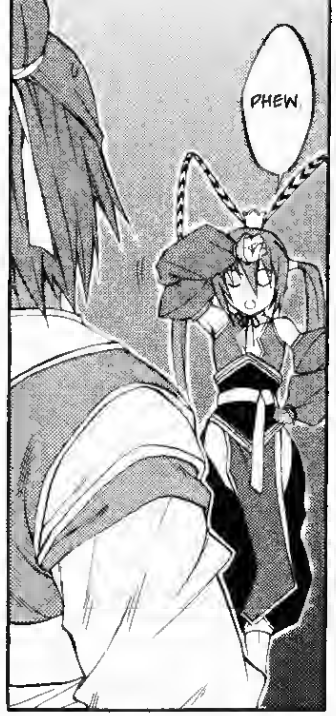

...BACK OFF!!
HE'S TRYING SOME-THING FUN, SO...

I WAS FOCUSING SO MUCH ON AIMING... I DIDN'T PULL BACK FAR ENOUGH...
THAT GIRL JUST CAUGHT MY ARROW... MIDAIR!
THIS ONE SHOT!
IF I DON'T MAKE THIS SHOT, I CAN'T FACE LADY DONG ZHUO.

HEY! SHE DOESN'T QUIT...


.....

??
DONG ZHUO? WHO'S THAT?
Y-YOU... AREN'T WITH DONG ZHUO...


PHEW

!!

WHAT-EVER--IT'S BLASTOFF TIME. ♪

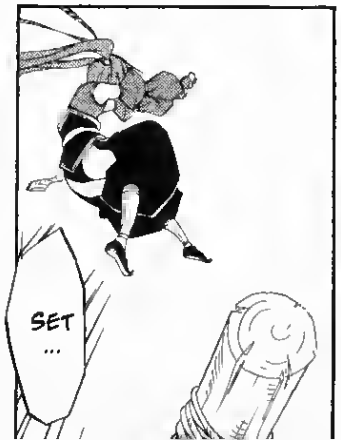
HUUUH?! YOU CAN'T MOVE IT?!

UH, WE CAN'T... THERE AREN'T ENOUGH PEOPLE TO PUSH IT.
Everyone ran off

NOT ONLY DID SHE CATCH MY ARROW, SHE LAUNCHED IT BACK!

LADY... DONG ZHUO...

!!
IMPOSSIBLE...


SET...

READY...

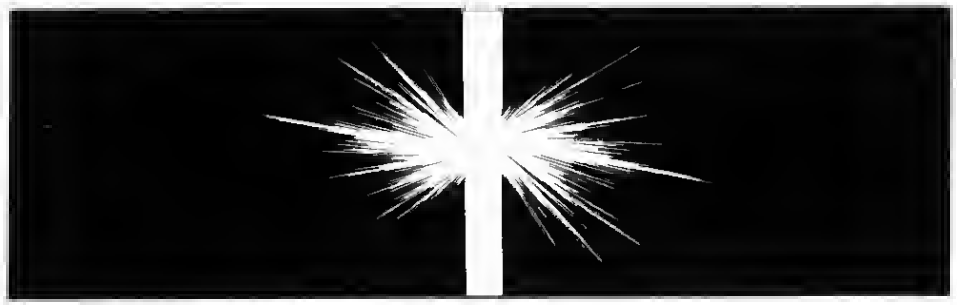
H-HEY!
WAS THAT JUST
ZHANG BAO! HE JUST WENT OVER THE WALL!
HE REALLY LAUNCHED HIMSELF! WHAT A MORON!
OUR BROTHER?!
HE MAY HAVE MADE IT IN, BUT HE'S JUST ONE GUY.
THE FOOLS OUTSIDE ARE STILL IN COMPLETE DISARRAY.

WHOA!!
GO!!
!
WAHOO!!
NO WAY! ALL BY HERSELF?!

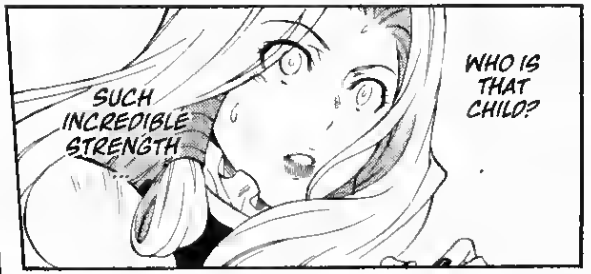
NOTHING SHORT OF A SIEGE RAM COULD!
DAMN! WE CAN'T OPEN THIS ALONE!
ズズズズ
?!
GRAH!
WHO'S THAT?!

SEIZE HIM!
RIGHT!
OUR BROTHER
YEAH
LET'S BUST IN THERE!
THE HUANG JIN MAY BE A RAGTAG BUNCH, BUT THEY CAN HANDLE ONE ENEMY!
I CAN'T LET THEM HOG ALL THE FUN!
OH YEAH! THE ACTION'S MOVED INSIDE!

Chapter Seven
DONG ZHUO GAINS THE BEAST,
LIU BEI FALLS FROM POWER

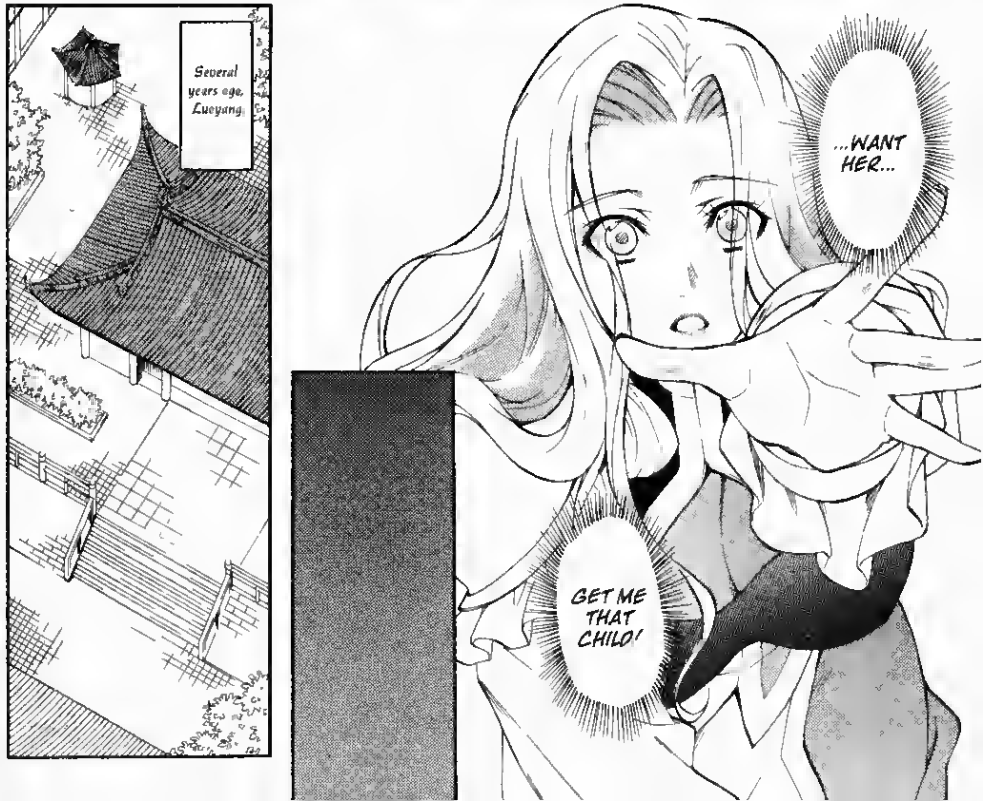


I WANT HER.
I WANT THAT CHILD!


SUCH INCREDIBLE STRENGTH...
WHO IS THAT CHILD?

HEY! THAT DONG ZHUO FROM XILIANG IS A WOMAN.
YOU SERIOUS?!
I CAN'T WAIT TO SEE HER ON THE BATTLEFIELD!
Batting her pretty eyes little eyes to distract the enemy
I'M SURE HER BODY'S WHAT GOT HER THIS FAR, EH?
EVER SINCE I WAS A CHILD, WAR HAS BEEN MY PLAY-GROUND.
I FELLED ALL BEFORE ME WITH TERRIFYING FORCE.

I...


Several years ago, Luoyang.
...WANT HER...
GET ME THAT CHILD!

!!
HEY! WHAT HAPPENED?!
!
.....
I FORGED MY OWN ARMY TO TAKE DOWN THE HUANG JIN.
I STRIVED TO GATHER OTHERS LIKE ME...
IF I HAD THAT CHILD...

I SURPASSED MY FATHER AND LEFT YING-CHUAN
I WANTED TO DISCOVER THE EXTENT OF MY POWER I WANTED TO PROVE MYSELF IN THE IMPERIAL ARMY
BUT THE HIGHER MY RANK, THE MORE I HAD TO COMPENSATE FOR BEING A WOMAN.
?
I CONTINUED TO BELIEVE A WOMAN COULD BE JUST AS STRONG AS A MAN.
I DIDN'T WANT TO FAIL.

WAIT, WAIT!
がしっ
...I COULD DO SO MUCH MORE!
WE COULD PROVE OURSELVES EQUAL TO THE MEN.
NO MATTER WHAT, I WILL HAVE THAT CHILD IN MY ARMY!
UMMM...
HM, WELL, ASIDE FROM THAT WHOLE GATE-OPENING TRICK...
?
WHAT?
ヒカ
I LAUNCHED HIM!
HM, YOUR BROTHER?
WELL I...
WHAT ABOUT OUR BROTHER FLYING OVER THE WALL?
WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THAT?

GULP

I DION'T COME THIS FAR TO BACK DOWN

EYA!

BRING IT O--

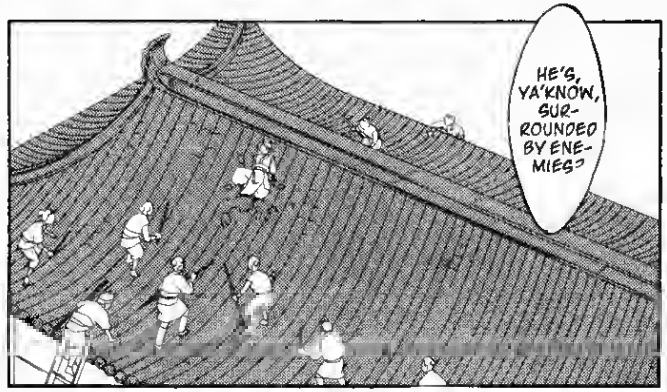
WAAHHH!

LAUNCHED HIM...?
HOW THE HELL--?!

Wha?!

WHO CARES?! SHOULDN'T WE GO RESCUE HIM?!

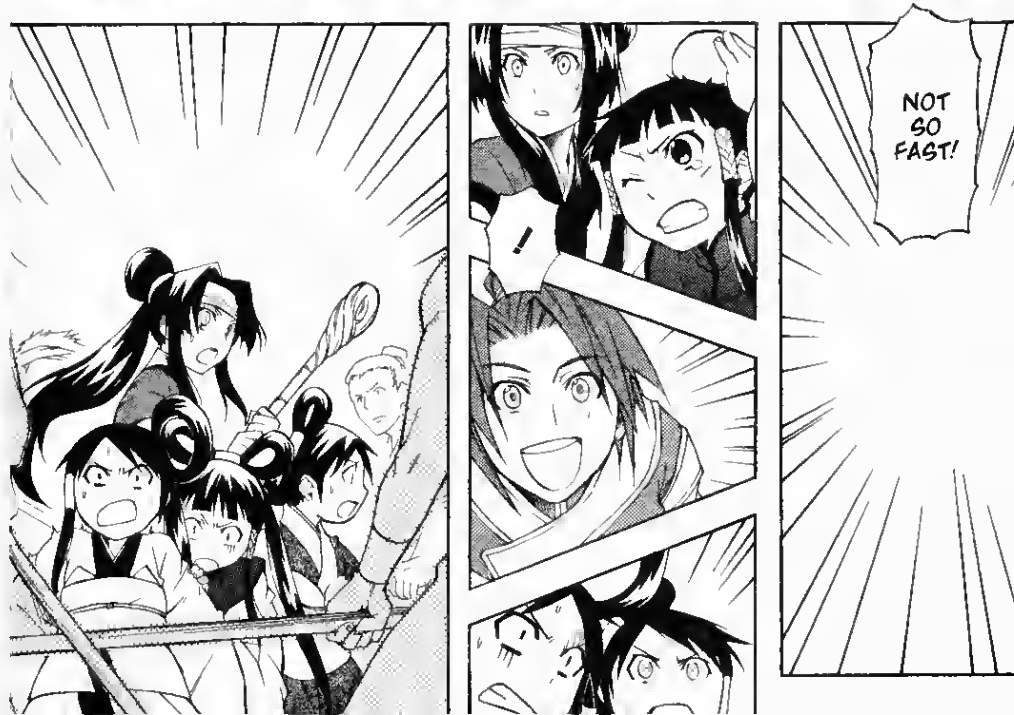
YOUR BRO'S IN QUITE A PINCH!


HE'S, YA'KNOW, SUR-ROUNDED BY ENE-MIES?

IT'S THE TRUTH
YOU LIE!
WITH THE ESSENTIAL ARTS OF PEACE, WE WILL BRING HARMONY TO THIS LAND.
SEEING OUR SORCERY, PEOPLE CAME TO JOIN US IN DROVES...
...AND OUR GREAT ARMY WILL BRING THE WORLD BACK TO THE TRANQUIL STATE IT ONCE WAS..
IN-SECT
IF I'M AN INSECT, THEN YOU ARE DECEIVING, DESTRUCTIVE, VERMIN!
JEEZ, DISTRACTED BY A TINY INSECT.
BROTH-ER!
NOOOOO!
ZHANG LIANG, THAT'S NOT IT! WE FIGHT FOR ONE REASON!
ALL WE SEEK TO BUILD IS A WORLD FREE OF CONSTANT TURMOIL. EVERYONE HERE SHARES OUR SEN-TIMENT.
YOU'RE WRONG
WE DON'T HAVE TO DECEIVE ANYONE.

BET YA DIDN'T SEE THAT COMING.
SIGH
HOW CARE-LESS!
IT WAS A CLOSE CALL!
I'M GLAD YOU'RE OKAY...

bonk
A KINGDOM FULL OF BEAUTIFUL WOMEN!
ANY-WAY ...


!
NOT SO FAST!

WELL, ONE DAY WE...
THEY MENTIONED SOMETHING
WAIT.
NOW! LET'S SEE WHAT REWARD WE'LL GET FOR THESE THREE!
TELL US ABOUT THESE ESSENTIAL ARTS OF PEACE AND THE POWERS THEY GRANTED YOU.
I'M INTERESTED IN ANYTHING THAT CAN HELP END THIS LONG PERIOD OF TURMOIL.
EH? YOU DIDN'T GET YOUR POWERS THROUGH INTENSE TRAINING?
NO!
TRAINING?! DISCIPLINE?! UGH!
SPILL IT. TELL US EVERY-THING.
AND THAT'S WHAT HAP-PENED...
WE ENDED UP EATING OUR WORDS AS THE SPELL CHANGED OUR VERY FORMS...
TH-THEN... WE'RE...
Original form?
WE'RE REALLY MEN?!

I... WE... WERE CHANGED AT BIRTH...
IF THAT'S DUE TO SOME CURSE, I WANT TO DISPEL IT!

THAT'S GREAT, BUT OFF TOPIC ALTO-GETHER!

.....

AH
NO WONDER ZHANG FEI HAS THAT REALLY BOW-LEGGED WALK!
SO EVEN THOUGH GUAN YU IS NEAT AND TIDY, SHE DOESN'T KNOW HOW TO TREAT A MAN!

バチバチ
NOW, NOW

THEY WERE CAUGHT IN THE EX-PLOSION CAUSED BY THE SPELL...
...AND SCAT-TERED TO THE WINDS ...

ドビクン

WELL, UM

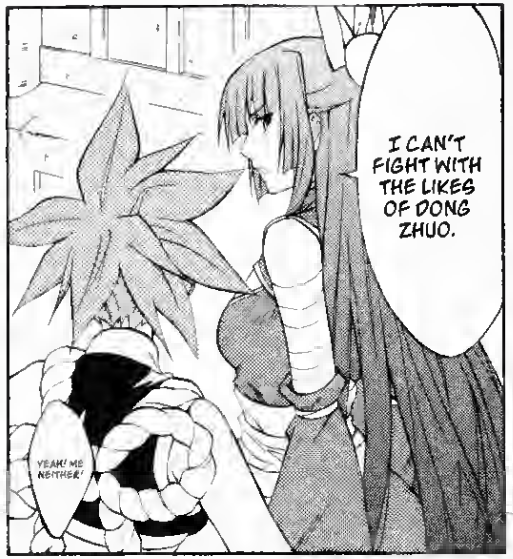
THE SCROLLS ♡

.....

WHETHER GUAN YU AND ZHANG FEI ARE WOMEN OR MEN...
...THEY ARE STILL MY SIBLINGS.

IS THAT... A PROB-LEM?

WE'RE LOOKING AT MORE AND MORE TROUBLE UP AHEAD


I CAN'T FIGHT WITH THE LIKES OF DONG ZHUO.
YEAH! ME NEITHER!

WE'LL STAY BY YOUR SIDE, NO MATTER WHAT!

LET'S GO!
WE'LL SEARCH FOR THE ESSENTIAL ARTS OF PEACE!

I wish!
...WE'D CHANGE OURSELVES BACK TO NORMAL!
IF WE HAD THE SCROLLS OUR-SELVES ...

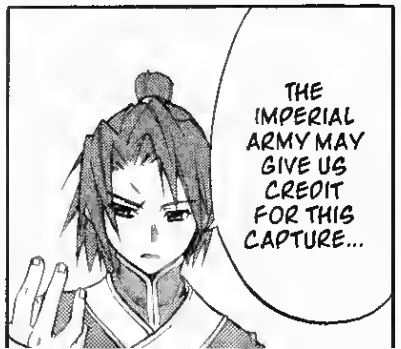
じぃ...

MAYBE WE COULD END THE WAR AND BRING PEACE TO THE PEOPLE
BUT. IF WE COULD MAKE ANOTHER WISH USING THE SCROLLS

OH WELL
THIS BODY ISN'T THAT BAD... SO WHO CARES?

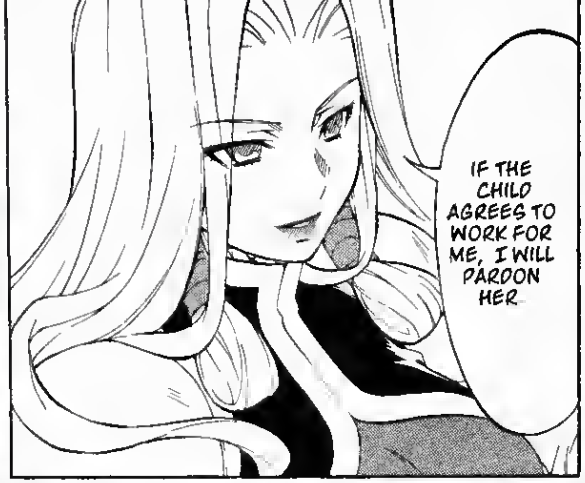
I'LL NEVER FIGHT AS AN IMPERIAL SOLDIER!
BUT, I'LL ONLY FIGHT WITH THE VOLUNTEER ARMY...

THAT'S RIGHT


THE IMPERIAL ARMY MAY GIVE US CREDIT FOR THIS CAPTURE...

BRING THAT CHILD ...
...TO ME.
HALT.
.....
WHAT DO YOU WANT WITH HER?!
!!
WHAT?!
FOR THAT CRIME, SHE MUST COME WITH ME.
THAT CHILD DISRUPTED THE BATTLE AND OBSTRUCTED THE IMPERIAL ARMY.
NO YOU AREN'T, LU BU.
!
WOW!
THAT SOUNDS LIKE FUN.
I'M GOING TOO!
YOUR JOB AS MY ASSISTANT IS IMPORTANT!
YOU'RE COMING WITH ME.
FATHER!
LET'S GO.
HMPH!

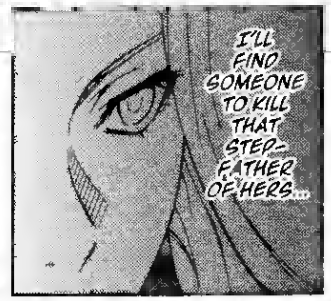
IF SHE COMES WITH ME, NOTHING ELSE MATTERS.

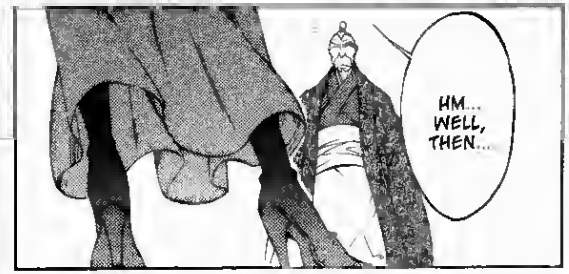

IF THE CHILD AGREES TO WORK FOR ME, I WILL PARDON HER.

LOSING HER WOULD COMPLETELY DISRUPT MY WORK.
LU BU IS MY ASSISTANT.

I'M A PUBLIC OFFICIAL FROM XIAOXIAN.

HEY, LADY! IF I GO WITH YOU...WILL I GET TO FIGHT LOTS A BATTLES?


I'LL FIND SOMEONE TO KILL THAT STEP-FATHER OF HERS...


HM... WELL, THEN...

OH, I'LL WIN, ALL RIGHT!

SURE. I WILL GIVE YOU WEAPONS, HORSES, EVERYTHING FOR BATTLE!
BUT IN RETURN, YOU MUST WIN.

...WE'LL SIMPLY FIND YOU A NEW ASSISTANT!

!?

YES, MA'AM
GET UP!

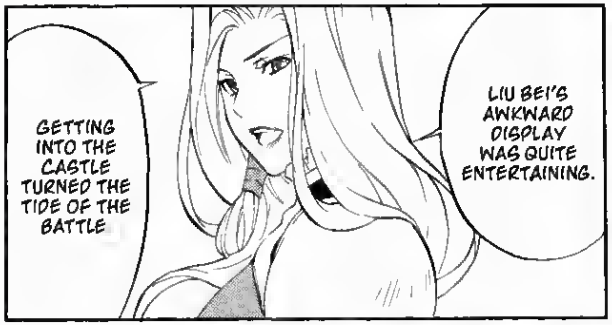
UM, LADY DONG ZHUO

TAKE THOSE THREE AWAY!
BE CAREFUL THEY DON'T USE THEIR SORCERY.

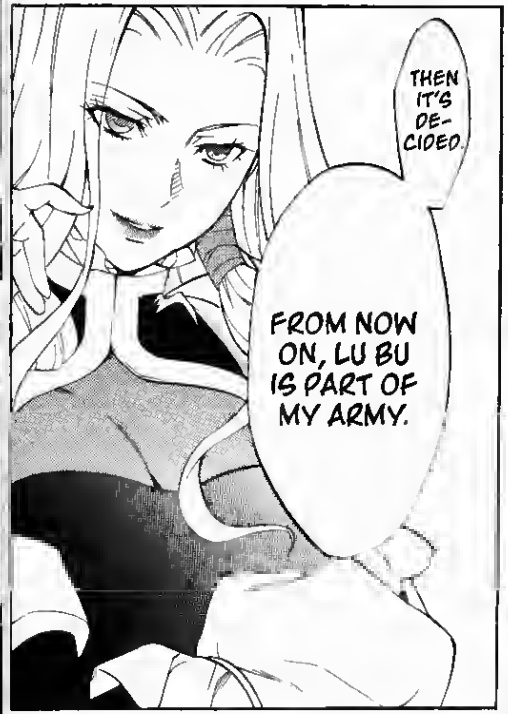
IF I GET TO FIGHT LOTS WITH THIS LADY...
...THEN FORGET MY STEPFATHER!

I'M SICK OF BEING DRAGGED AROUND AND NOT BEING ALLOWED TO FIGHT!

LU BU...
DO YOU THINK SO LITTLE OF ME...
...AFTER ALL THESE YEARS?


LIU BEI'S AWKWARD DISPLAY WAS QUITE ENTERTAINING.
GETTING INTO THE CASTLE TURNED THE TIDE OF THE BATTLE

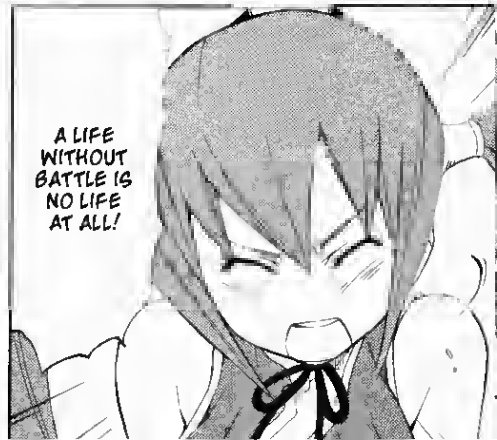
WE ...


THEN IT'S DECIDED.
FROM NOW ON, LU BU IS PART OF MY ARMY.

YOU DON'T LET ME FIGHT

Ya

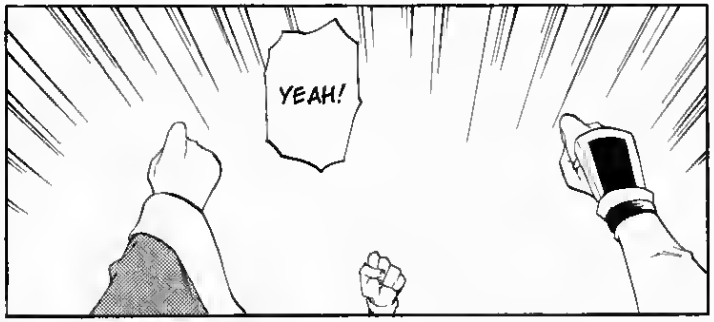
I DON'T WANT TO LET THOSE TWO GO, BUT AT LEAST I'VE GAINED LU BU.
IT HURTS TO LOSE YOU TWO, BUT A PROMISE IS A PROMISE.


A LIFE WITHOUT BATTLE IS NO LIFE AT ALL!

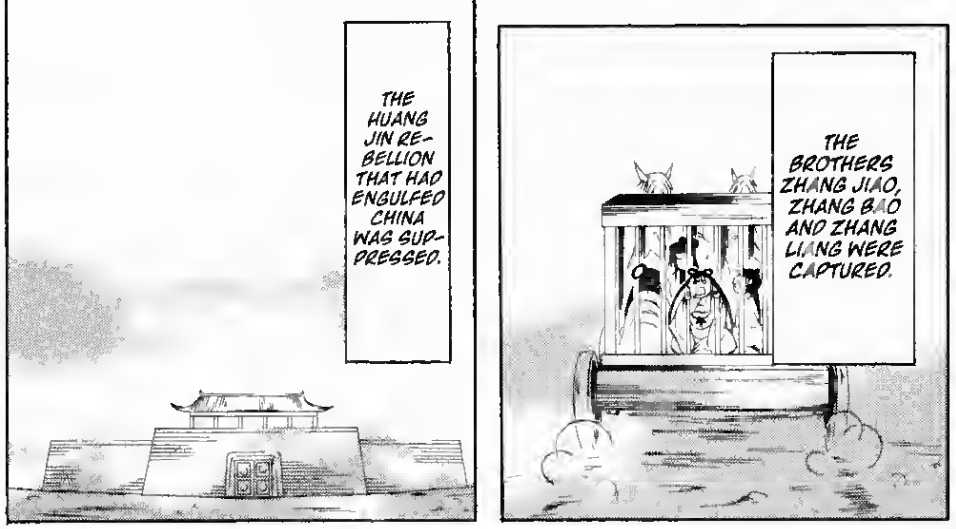
YA-HOO!
NOW WE CAN STAY WITH OUR BROTHER!
LET'S GO, EVERY-ONE.
HOO HOO... YOU'LL SERVE ME AGAIN SOME-DAY.
THEY LEFT...
MAYBE THEY WEREN'T SO BAD.
YEAH.
BUT IN THE END..
LIU BEI IS THE BEST!
YOU REALLY SCARED US GOING OVER THE WALL LIKE THAT...BUT IT WAS PRETTY COOL!
YEAH...

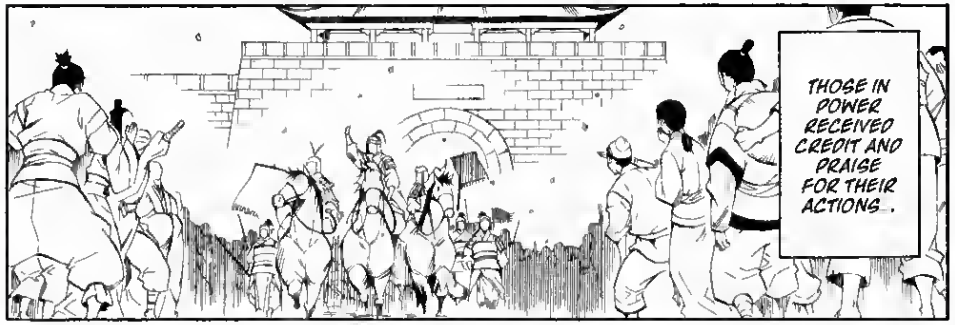
I WAS NEVER IN IT TO PROVE MYSELF.
EVEN WITHOUT THE IMPERIAL ARMY, I CAN HELP.

THE PATH WON'T BE EASY ...
...BUT WE CAN WALK IT TOGETHER!

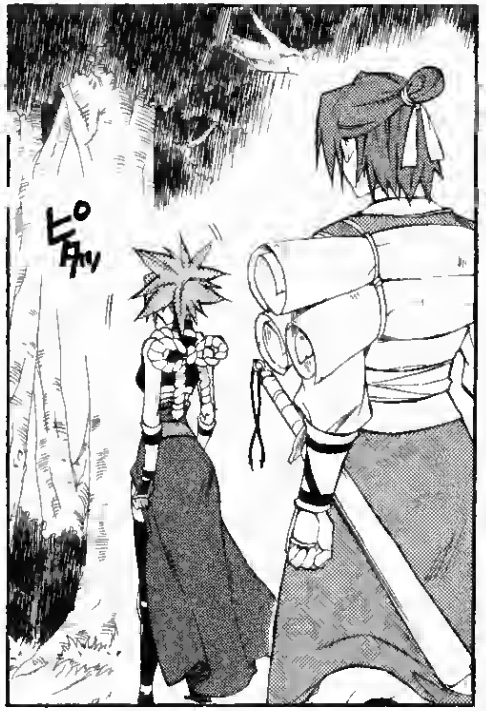

YEAH!

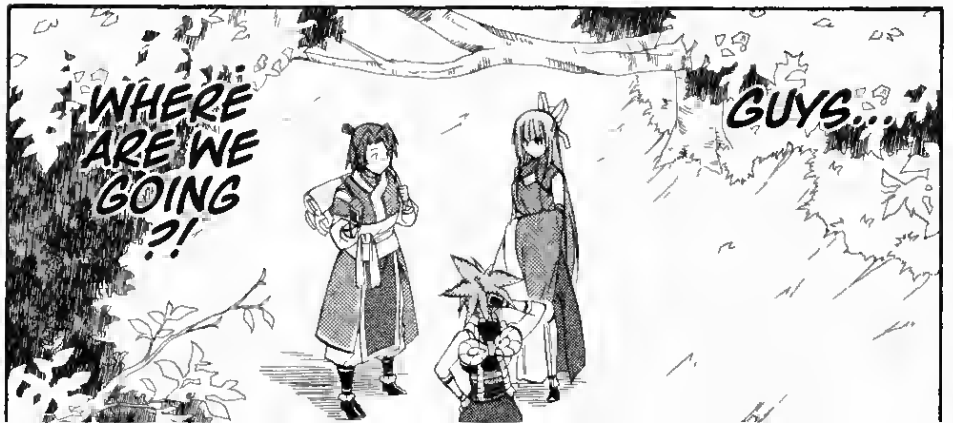
IN THIS WAR ...
... I THINK I CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

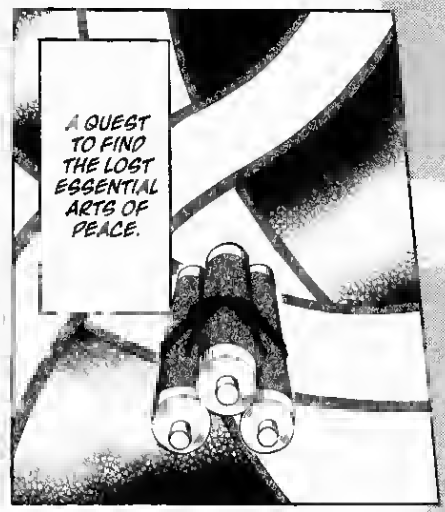

THE HUANG JIN REBELLION THAT HAD ENGULFED CHINA WAS SUPPRESSED.
THE BROTHERS ZHANG JIAO, ZHANG BAO AND ZHANG LIANG WERE CAPTURED.


THOSE IN POWER RECEIVED CREDIT AND PRAISE FOR THEIR ACTIONS...

THE BRAVE VOLUNTEERS RETURNED HOME TO THEIR VILLAGES.
...WHILE LIU BEI AND HIS ARMY DISBANDED AND WERE FORGOTTEN.



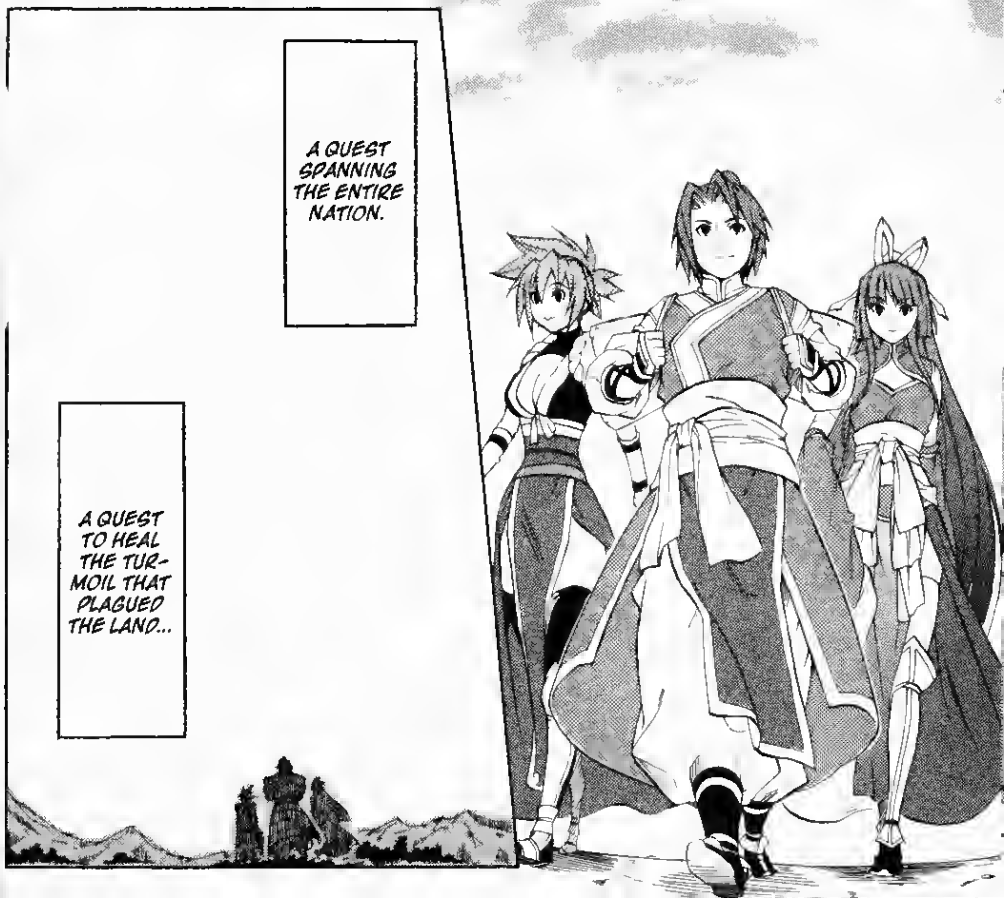




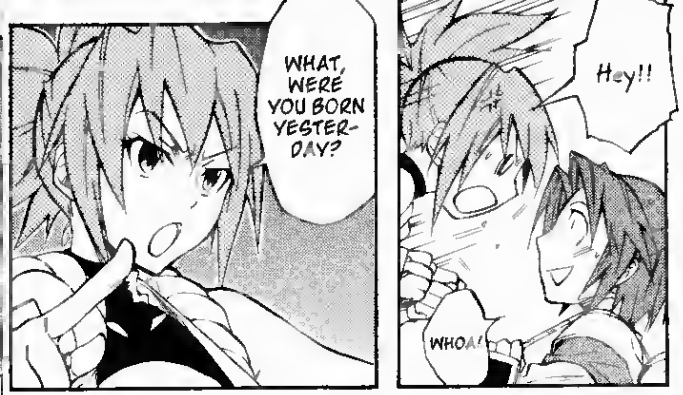
AND LIU BEI, GUAN YU AND ZHANG FEI SET OFF ON A NEW QUEST FOR PEACE.

A QUEST SPANNING THE ENTIRE NATION.

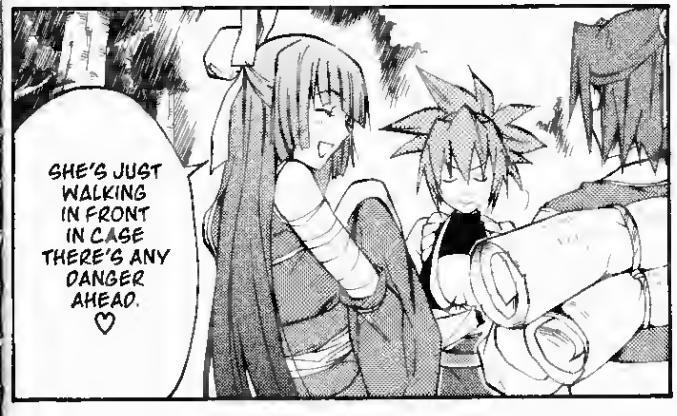
A QUEST TO HEAL THE TUR-MOIL THAT PLAGUED THE LAND...

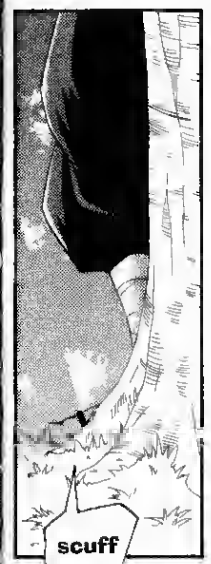


Chapter Eight
WANDERING THROUGH THE WILDERNESS, LIU BEI MEETS THE SLEEPING DRAGON


WHAT, WERE YOU BORN YESTERDAY?
Hey!!
WHOA!

I-I WAS JUST FOLLOWING YOU, ZHANG FEI... DON'T YOU KNOW WHERE YOU'RE GOING?


SHE'S JUST WALKING IN FRONT IN CASE THERE'S ANY DANGER AHEAD. ♡

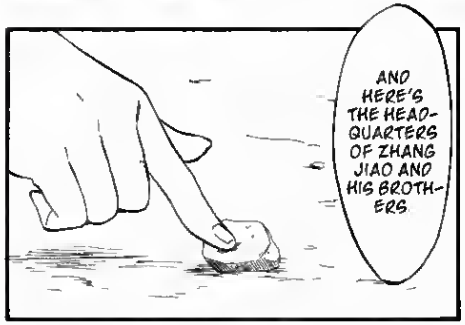

scuff

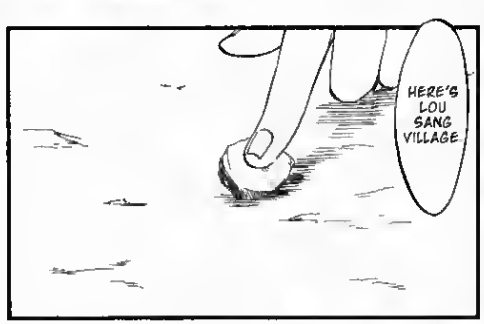
AH HA HA HA

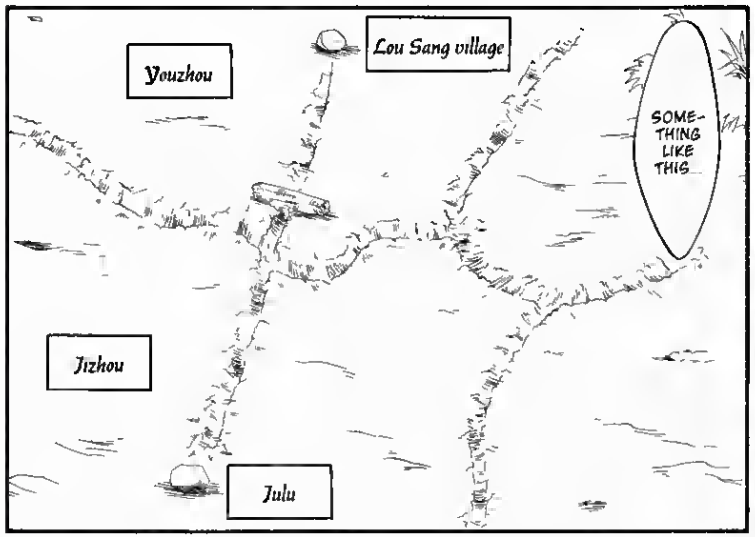
HMPH.
NICE ONE, GUAN YU.

UMM

YOU'RE NODDING, BUT DO YOU REALLY UNDER-STAND?


AND HERE'S THE HEAD-QUARTERS OF ZHANG JIAO AND HIS BROTH-ERS


HERE'S LOU SANG VILLAGE


Youzhou
Lou Sang village
Jizhou
Julu
SOME-THING LIKE THIS

MM-HM
...WE STARTED AT LOU SANG VILLAGE, AND HAVE BEEN WALKING THIS WAY.
WELL ...

rustle
カサカサ…
STALKER!
WHO'S THERE?!
M-ME!
IT'S ME!
GAH!
AH, I WENT BACK, BUT
…YOU'RE STILL FIGHTING, RIGHT?
SO I RUSHED HERE BECAUSE… YOU NEED MY STRENGTH!
YUP YUP
WE PARTED WAYS BACK IN THE VILLAGE…
Y-YOU!

WE'RE IN THIS TOGETHER
ALL RIGHT, THEN.

UM
SO

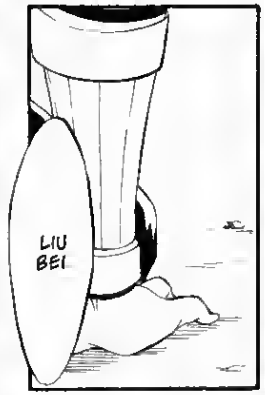
YOU WERE THE REAL HEROES, NOT ME...
THAT'S OKAY... AFTER ALL, I'M JUST A SIDE CHARACTER.
S-SORRY!

Sorry!
WHAT'S YOUR NAME?!

shock

OUR JOURNEYS ARE NOT THE SAME.
UH SORRY YOU REALLY SHOULD GO HOME

PLEASE
LET ME COME WITH YOU!


LIU BEI

YOU HAVE FRIENDS AND FAMILY TO PROTECT, SO...
WE MAY STARVE OR SIMPLY RUN OUT OF ENERGY AND DIE.
WE HAVE NO MONEY, AND WE'RE SEARCHING FOR SOMETHING WE MAY NEVER FIND.

I'LL STICK TO YOU LIKE SCALES TO A GOLDFISH!
THAT'S WHY I'M HERE TO PROTECT YOU GUYS! I CHOSE THIS!

MY FAMILY WAS KILLED BY THE HUANG JIN, AND OUR FARMLAND BURNED.
THERE'S NOTHING LEFT FOR ME BACK IN THE VILLAGE.
NOTHING...

IT'S NO USE I CAN'T TAKE ANOTHER STEP...
I GUESS WE'LL STOP HERE FOR TONIGHT.

SORRY TO MAKE YOU SLEEP OUTSIDE...

RIGHT! THERE COULD BE REMNANTS OF THE HUANG JIN LURKING AROUND...
WE'D BETTER KEEP WATCH!

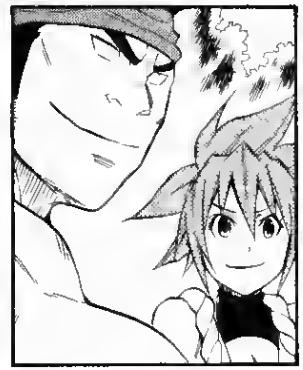
YEAH, WE'LL MAKE THE BEST OF IT.
HEY! DON'T BE SO DOWN!

!!!!

THERE, THERE, JIAN YONG.
I'M JUST ONE OF MANY...

I'M FROM THE LOU SANG VILLAGE OF ZHUOXIAN! MY SPECIAL ABILITY IS THE HEADBUTT!
I KNEW YOU'D REMEMBER!
YOU'RE MY KIND OF WOMAN!

ZHANG FEI! WHAT DID YOU SAY?!
Y-YOU'RE JIAN YONG, RIGHT?!



WEL-COME

W-WELCOME ABOARD, JIAN YONG.

YEAH!

HEY!
YOU'VE GOT A BEAUTY MARK HERE!
OH

WAH!

DON'T STARE AT IT!

I'D BETTER GO RESCUE THEM!
ベキ
Huh?!

JERK!
JUST FOR THAT, I'LL FIND SOMETHING EVEN WORSE TO STARE AT!
ばしゃ ばしゃ
NOOO!

もんもんもんもんもん
NOOO
GET BACK HERE

ハァ
ハァ

……

AH! AH!

AH
AH...

I'M GOING ON PATROL!!

N-N-NOTH-ING!
YAAAH!

ACHOO!

...AH

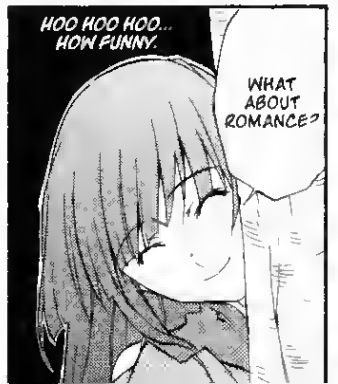
IT SURE DOES GET CHILLY AT NIGHT!
COLD...
YEAH, BUT IF WE DON'T DOUSE THE FIRE, IT'S AN INVITATION TO BANDITS

ゴソゴソ
UMM...

THEY'D BE IN TROUBLE! BIG TROUBLE!
TWO BATHING BEAUTIES ARE ALL ALONE... WHAT IF ROBBERS SHOW UP?!

THERE'S NOTHING TO KEEP AN EYE ON...
Nothing here.

SO I'D BETTER HEAD OVER AND KEEP AN EYE ON--
JIAN YONG


HOO HOO HOO... HOW FUNNY.
WHAT ABOUT ROMANCE?

YOU... YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND ROMANCE AT ALLLL.
Idiot.

TIME FLOWS LIKE A RIVER, BUT MINE WAS FROZEN IN PLACE... UNTIL GUAN YU AND ZHANG FEI CAME ALONG
THE PLEDGE I MADE WITH THEM... I'VE COME SO FAR...
...BEFORE MY LIFE STARTS TO STAGNATE AGAIN.
I MUST KEEP GOING...
THESE SHOULD KEEP YOU WARM WHILE YOU SLEEP.
HERE YOU ARE!
I'VE GOT ONE FOR EACH OF YOU.
WOW! ♪
THEY MUST BE TIRED AFTER ALL THAT WALK-ING.
THEY'VE FALLEN ASLEEP
YAHOO! I LOVE YOUR MATS!
ばっ
ゴロン
MMM

...THERE ARE STILL SO MANY STARVING AND IN PERIL.
WE MAY HAVE DEFEATED THE HUANG JIN, BUT UNDER THIS NIGHT SKY...
IF WHAT THE ZHANG SISTERS SAID WAS TRUE...MAYBE WE CAN FIX IT.

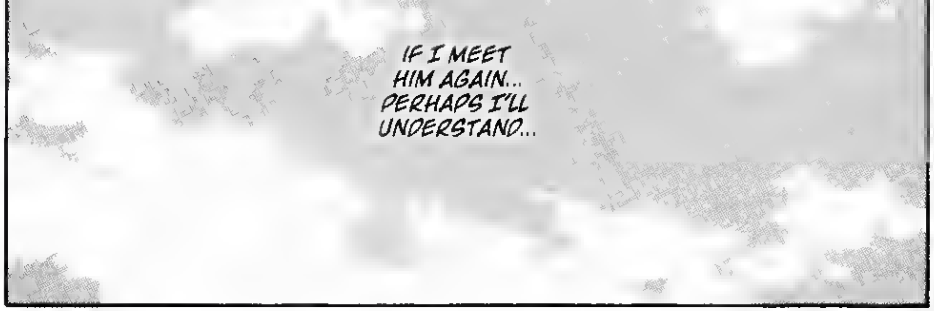
I WONDER WHAT THAT GENERAL CAO CAO IS GOING TO DO..
SPEAKING OF WHICH...
HAS HE MET WITH SUCCESS?

ばっ

☆※♨!!

WHY IS HE HERE?!

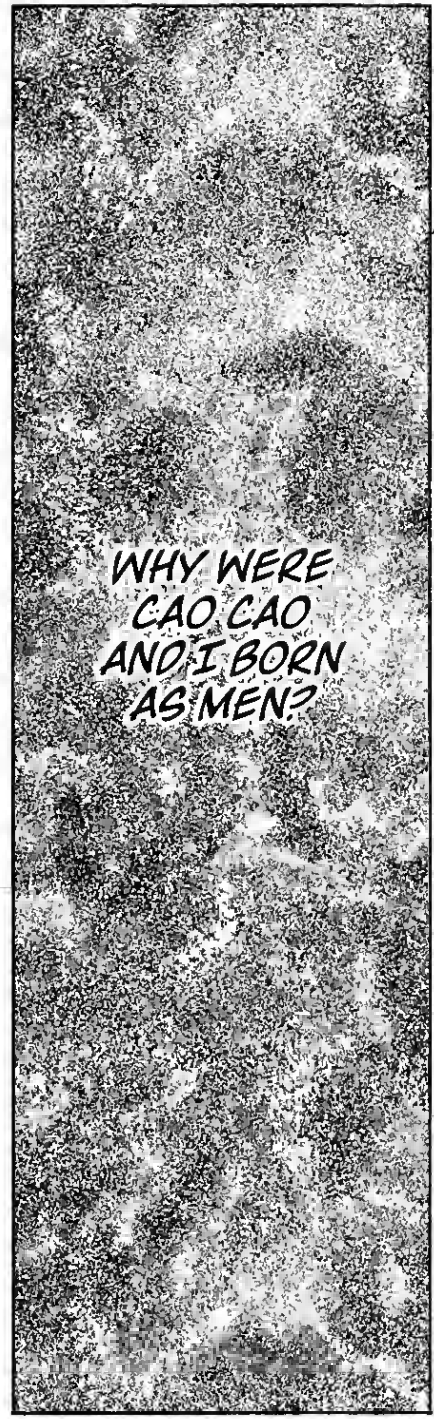
HOW LONG HAS IT BEEN SINCE I'VE LOOKED UP AT THE NIGHT SKY?


IF I MEET HIM AGAIN... PERHAPS I'LL UNDERSTAND...

MM

STILL SLEEPING, HUH?! WAKE UP, WAKE UP!

HEY! HOW LONG ARE YA PLANNING TO SLEEP?! GET UP!

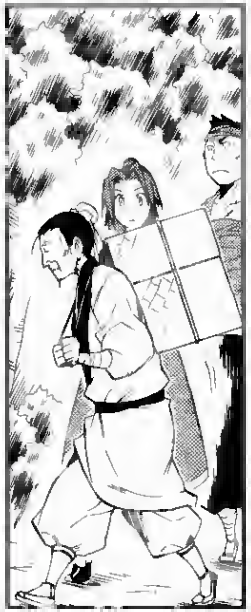

WHY WERE CAO CAO AND I BORN AS MEN?

AND WHAT OF THOSE LADIES WHO ACCOMPANIED HIM? WERE THEY BORN THROUGH THE CURSE?

IF SO...

YES, YES
WHAT CAN I DO FOR YOU?

EXCUSE ME, TRAVELER



WHAT?! DID YOU SAY JULU?!
YA DONE PASSED THERE ALREADY!

ARE WE NEARBY?
WE HAVE TRAVELED FROM ZHUOXIAN, AND ARE SEARCHING FOR JULU IN JIZHOU...

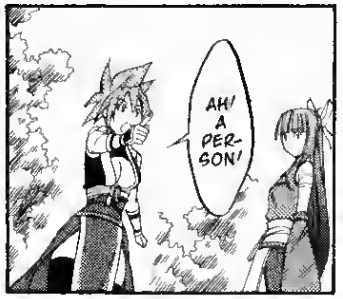
WH-WHAT?!

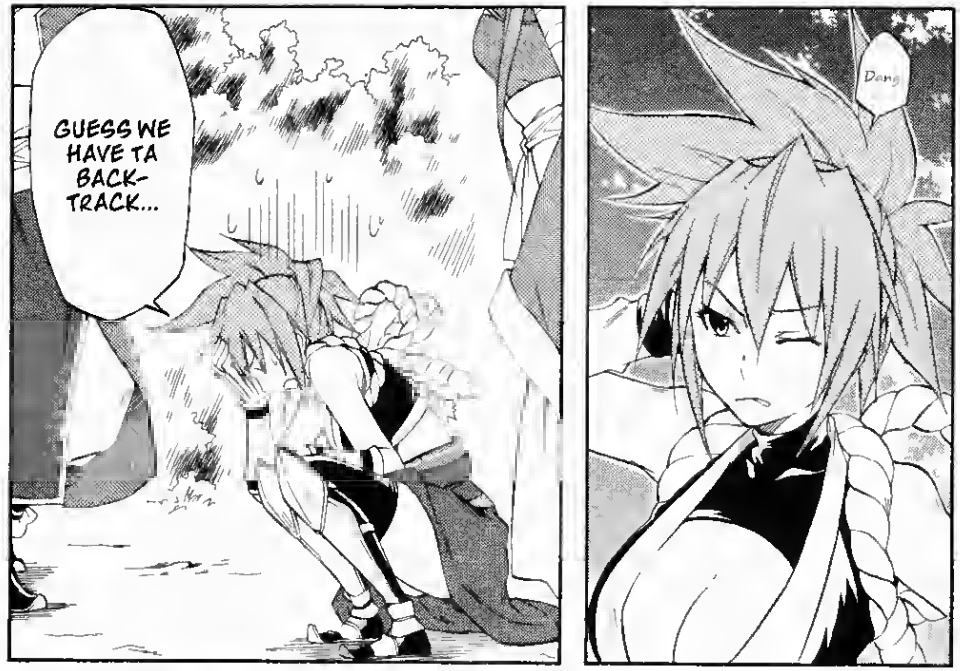
JIZHOU IS ZHANG JIAO'S HEADQUARTERS MAYBE SOMEONE THERE KNOWS ABOUT THE ESSENTIAL ARTS OF PEACE

HOW ABOUT WE HEAD TOWARD JIZHOU?

DON'T HAVE A CLUE ABOUT OUR CURRENT LOCATION, THOUGH
LOOKING AT THE SUN, WE SEEM TO BE HEADING EAST-SOUTHEAST
YES, LET'S

BUT FIRST I'D LIKE TO CHECK OUR CURRENT POSITION...
GOOD IDEA


AH! A PERSON!


GUESS WE HAVE TA BACK-TRACK...
Dang

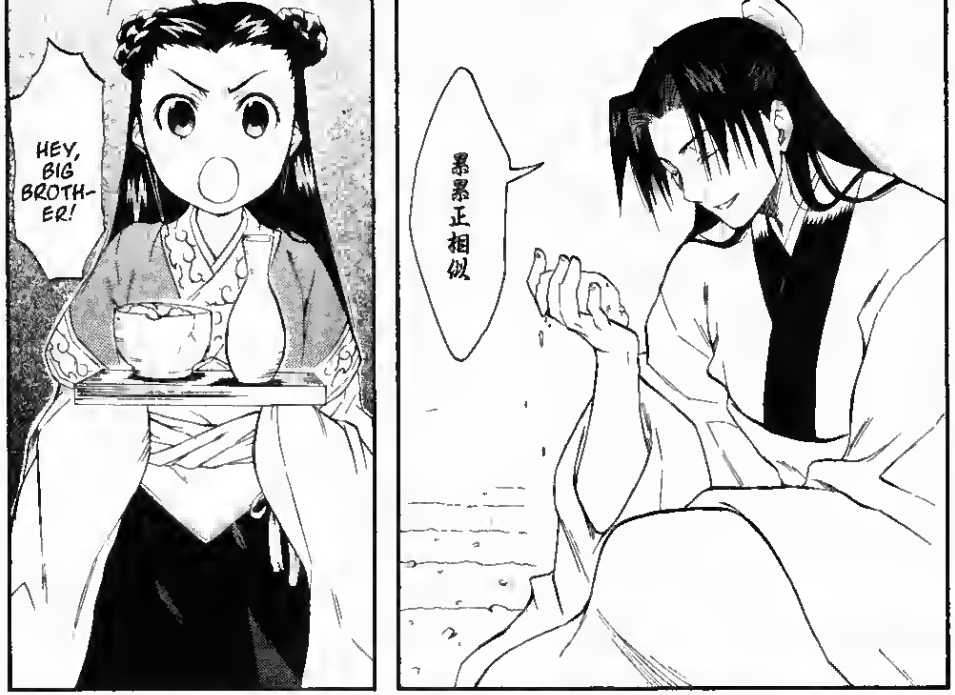
OUR DESTINATION WAS NEVER REALLY SET.
SO...HOW ABOUT WE LOOK UP AHEAD A BIT FIRST?

MAYBE HE CAN POINT YOU IN THE RIGHT DIREC-TION.
THERE'S A PRETTY SMART GUY UP AHEAD.

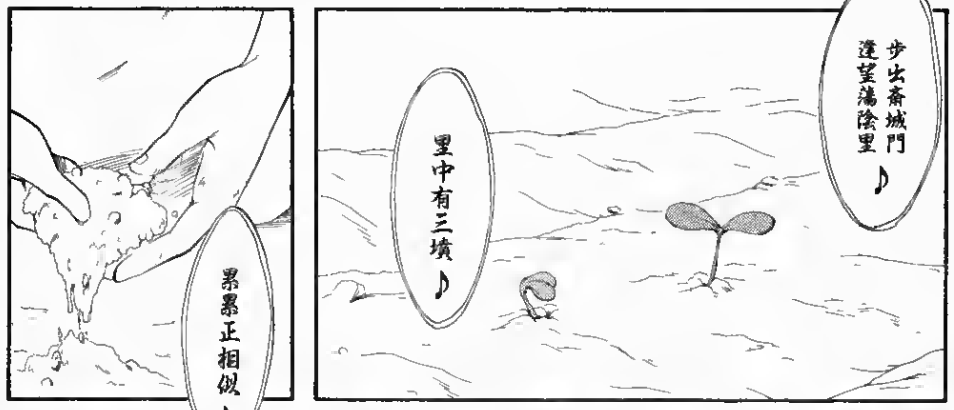
??...

.....

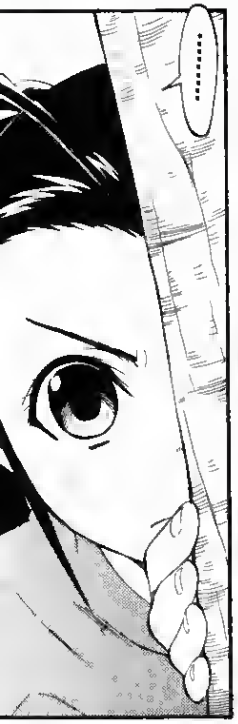
HOW ABOUT A RE-WARD?


HEY, BIG BROTH-ER!
累累正相似

THE MORE LOVE YOU SHOW THE EARTH, THE MORE IT WILL YIELD FOR YOU.
JEEZ! HERE YOU ARE PLAYING IN THE DIRT AGAIN!
AH HA HA, SORRY.


步出齊城門
遙望蕩陰里 ♪
里中有三墳 ♪
累累正相似 ♪

A SONG?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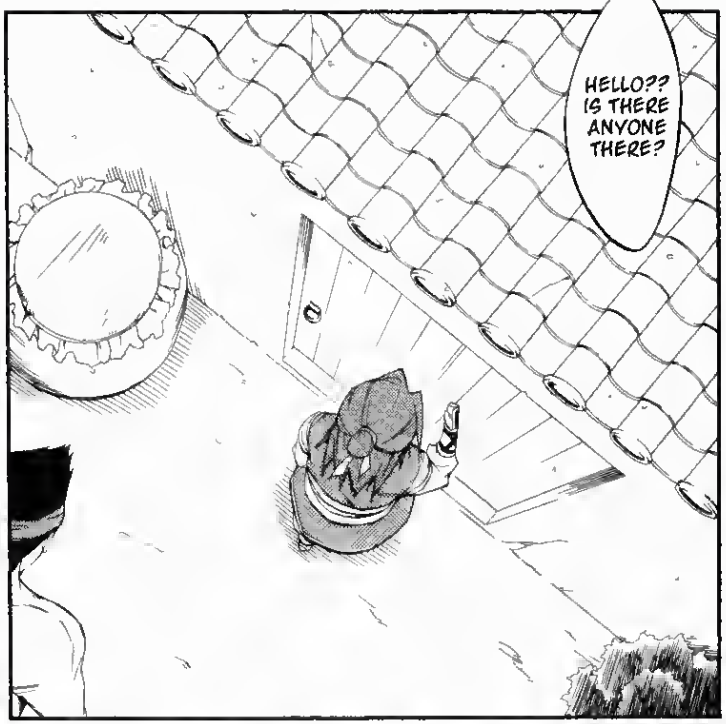
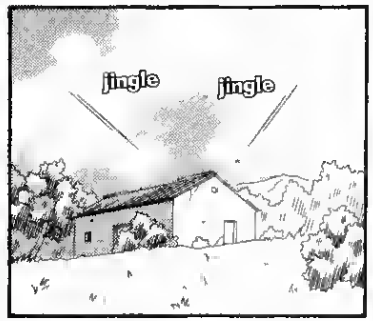

HELLO?? IS THERE ANYONE THERE?

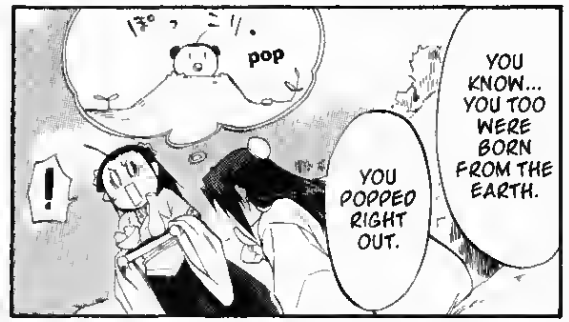
ぽよ!
Pat
Aaaaah!

THERE ARE SOME SCARY PEOPLE IN THIS WORLD
WHEN SOMEONE RINGS, DON'T SHOW YOURSELF WITHOUT MAKING SURE IT'S SAFE.
HMM... WHAT TO DO...

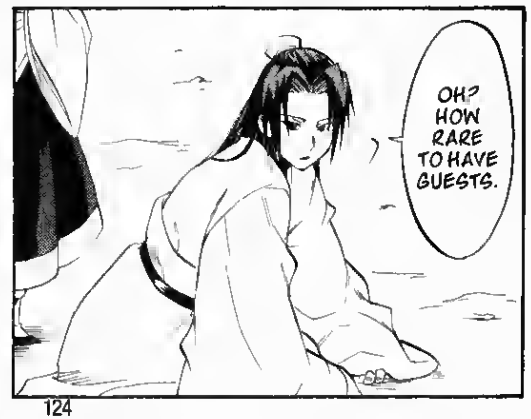
ドキドキ
STRANGE

WE WERE BORN FROM THE EARTH, AND TO IT WE SHALL RETURN.
OUR LIVES ARE FOR-EVER INTER-TWINED.


jingle
jingle

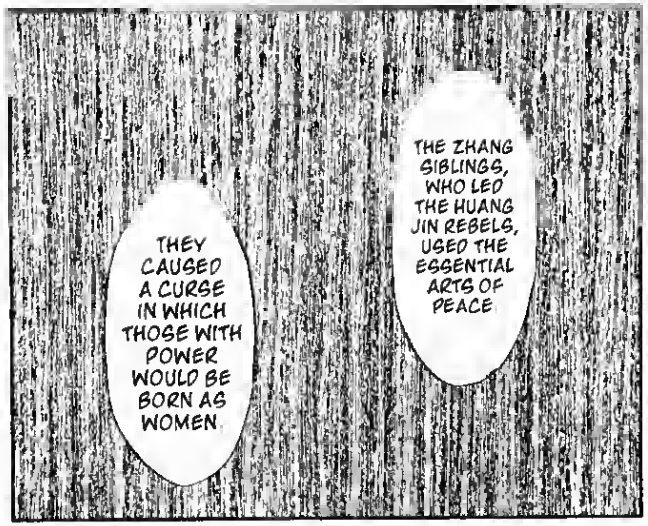

pop
!
YOU POPPED RIGHT OUT.
YOU KNOW... YOU TOO WERE BORN FROM THE EARTH.

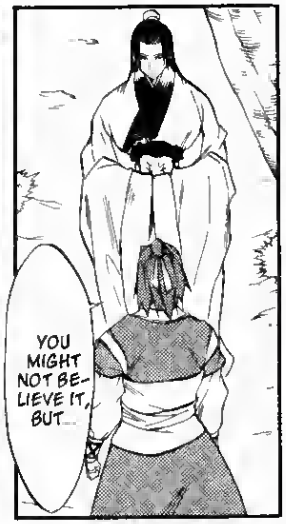
YOU STAY AND EAT YOUR LUNCH!
AH, I'LL GO SEE TO THEM


OH? HOW RARE TO HAVE GUESTS.

OH... A QUEST?
WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING FOR?

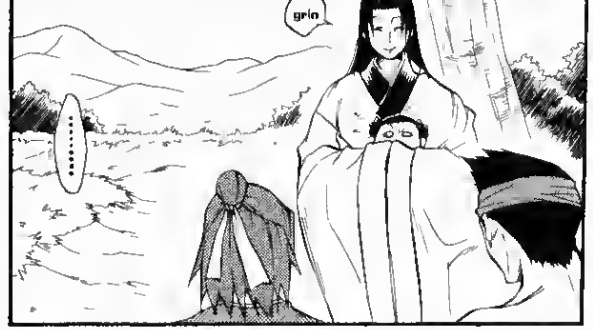
N-NO, NOT AT ALL.
WE'RE ON A JOURNEY SEARCHING FOR SOMETHING.


THE ZHANG SIBLINGS, WHO LED THE HUANG JIN REBELS, USED THE ESSENTIAL ARTS OF PEACE
THEY CAUSED A CURSE IN WHICH THOSE WITH POWER WOULD BE BORN AS WOMEN.


YOU MIGHT NOT BELIEVE IT, BUT...

IF THERE ARE SCROLLS WITH THAT MUCH POWER...

THESE TWO... HOLD IMMENSE POWER...AND WE BELIEVE THEY WERE BOTH CURSED.

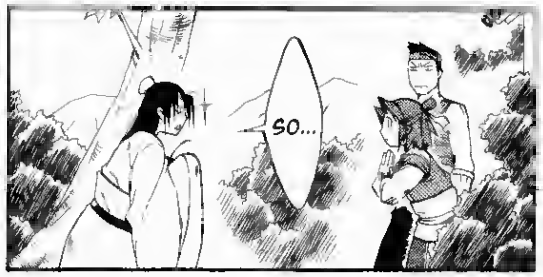

grin
.....

Aaaah!
?!!

ESTEEMED TRAVELERS, I APOLOGIZE FOR KEEPING YOU WAITING.

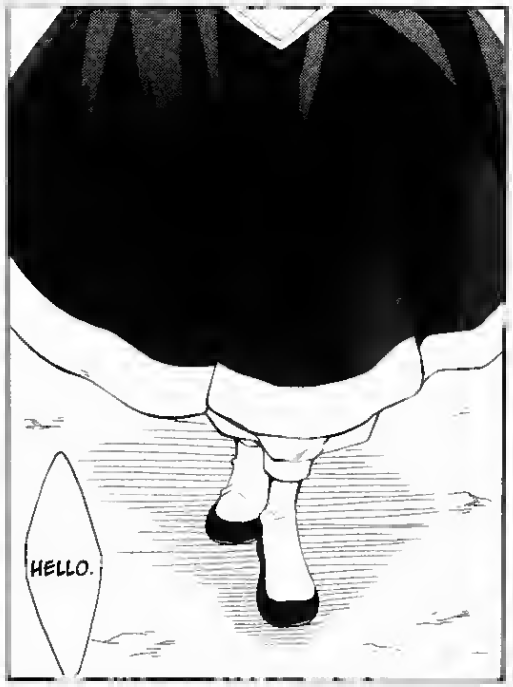
...WHAT BUSINESS HAS BROUGHT YOU WAY OUT HERE?
IT COULDN'T BE FOR THIS CHILD!
Mmph

AH...IT'S OKAY. WE'RE SORRY TO HAVE TROUBLED YOU.


SO...

SHE'S A CLEVER CHILD SHE'LL BE ABLE TO HELP YOU OUT

MY LITTLE HELPER WILL GUIDE YOU THERE.
!!


HELLO.

THANK YOU.
WHAT IS YOUR NAME, CHILD?

WE'RE GOING TO ZHANG JIAO'S HOMELAND TO FIND THIS MAGIC.
WE FIGURE THEY HAVE THE POWER TO BREAK THIS CURSE AND MAYBE BRING PEACE.

IT SEEMS THE SCROLLS WERE SCATTERED TO THE WINDS AS THE SPELL WAS CAST.

THERE IS A SMALL TOWN A WAYS DOWN FROM HERE.
THE ELDER THERE MAY KNOW SOME THING.

I SEE ...

Chapter Nine
LUOYANG, THE IMPERIAL CITY OF DEVASTATION; THE WILL OF THE HEAVENS FLOWS THROUGH LIU BEI

I AM ZHUGE LIANG...
...KONG-MING.

CAN A SQUIRT LIKE YOU HANDLE BEING OUR GUIDE?!
...HEH.

HMPH
I'VE NEVER BEEN THAT FAR FROM HOME BY MYSELF...
NO WAY!
NUH-UH!
THIS DANGEROUS WORLD IS NO PLACE FOR A CUTE LITTLE KID LIKE YOU!
NO HOW!
AH!
OF COURSE YOU HAVEN'T!
DON'T WORRY ABOUT HER
I'M THE ONE WHO'S WORRIED!!

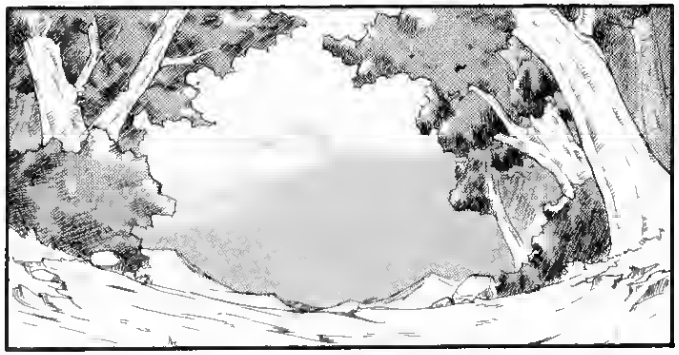
YES, IT'S MY CHERISHED HAT
TAKE IT WITH YOU.
THIS IS BROTHER'S!
SORRY FOR THAT OUTBURST
Cough
.....
NO WORRIES-- SHE KNOWS THE LAYOUT OF THE ENTIRE COUNTY. SHE SHOULD HAVE NO TROUBLE SHOWING YOU THE VILLAGE.
YOU CAN DO IT. RIGHT, LIANG?
OOHHH!
かぽ
YUP, NO PROBLEM ♪
HERE.
THE WHOLE... COUNTY?!

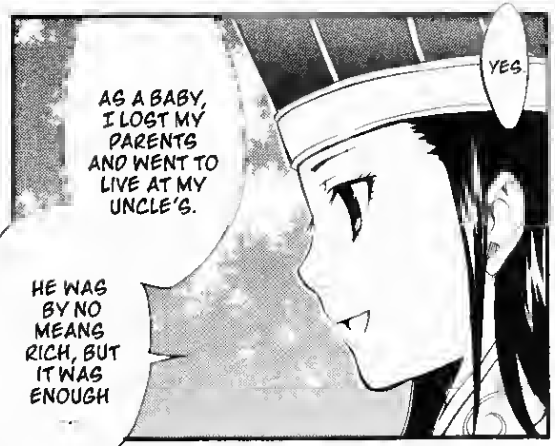
huff
huff
huff
huff
huff
huff
IT'S PERFECT FOR YOU.
AH, IT LOOKS GREAT.

OKAY!

WELL, SHALL WE GO, LITTLE SCHOLAR?

HEY..




YES.
AS A BABY, I LOST MY PARENTS AND WENT TO LIVE AT MY UNCLE'S.
HE WAS BY NO MEANS RICH, BUT IT WAS ENOUGH

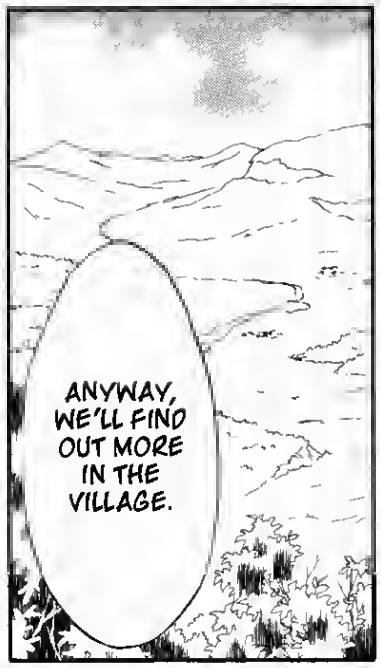
YOU LIVE ALONE WITH THAT BROTHER OF YOURS?

MY BROTHER AND I DEPENDED ON EACH OTHER..
...SO WE WOULD ALWAYS TRAVEL TOGETHER.

WHAT YOU WERE SAYING ABOUT THE ESSENTIAL ARTS OF PEACE...
BY THE WAY...
THE CURSE CHANGED PEOPLE AT THE MOMENT OF BIRTH, BUT NOW THEY'RE ALL GROWN UP.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
?
I UNDER-STAND...
...BUT EVEN IF WE FIND THEM, I DON'T KNOW IF WE CAN BREAK THE CURSE.
Poof
ぼぎゃ～！
NO WAY! I CAN'T SUDDENLY BECOME A WOMAN!
UMM...
DO YOU THINK IT WILL SUDDENLY CHANGE THEM INTO MEN?

HE SAVED UP MONEY LITTLE BY LITTLE AND PAID FOR MY EDUCATION.
PEOPLE COME FROM ALL AROUND TO PURCHASE FOOD FROM HIM.
MY BROTHER LOVES THE LAND AND CULTIVATES DELICIOUS PRODUCE FROM IT.
STILL, I WANT TO HAVE SKILLS THAT ARE USEFUL IN TIMES OF PEACE, TOO.
MY BROTHER SAYS I WILL EXCEL AS A MILITARY TACTICIAN.

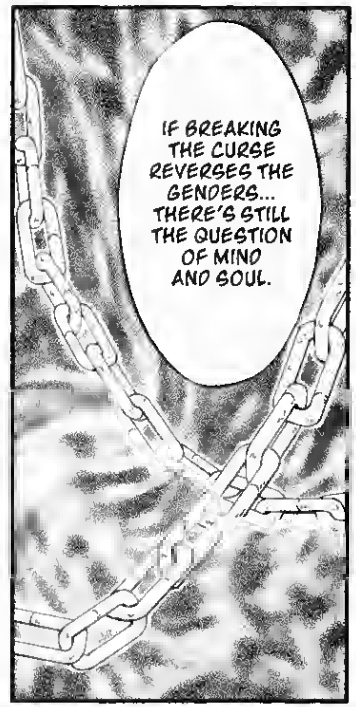
THE ELDER SHUI JING IS IN THAT VILLAGE THERE!


ANYWAY, WE'LL FIND OUT MORE IN THE VILLAGE.

!

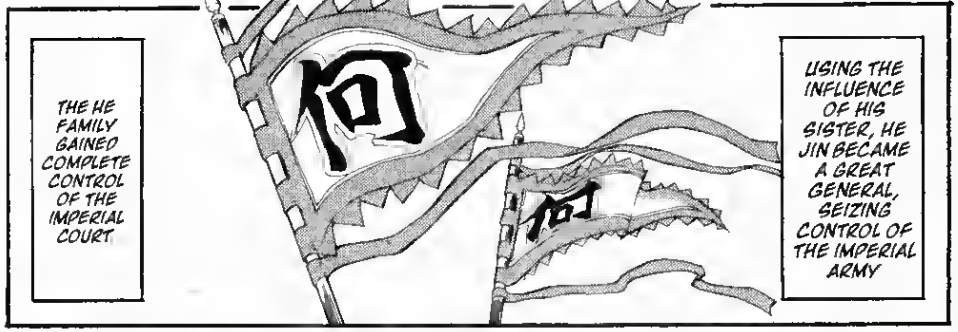
I'D HAVE NO INTENTION OF BREAKING IT
EVEN IF I WAS BORN A WOMAN DUE TO A CURSE

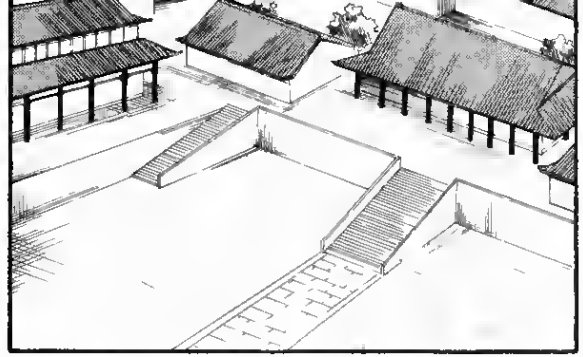
I WANT TO GO ON LIVING IN MY CURRENT FORM.

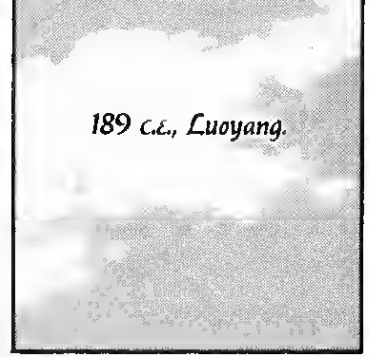

IF BREAKING THE CURSE REVERSES THE GENDERS... THERE'S STILL THE QUESTION OF MIND AND SOUL.

WELL, I'M NOWHERE NEAR AS TOUGH AS YOU TWO, SO MAYBE I'M NOT CURSED.
Hmph!

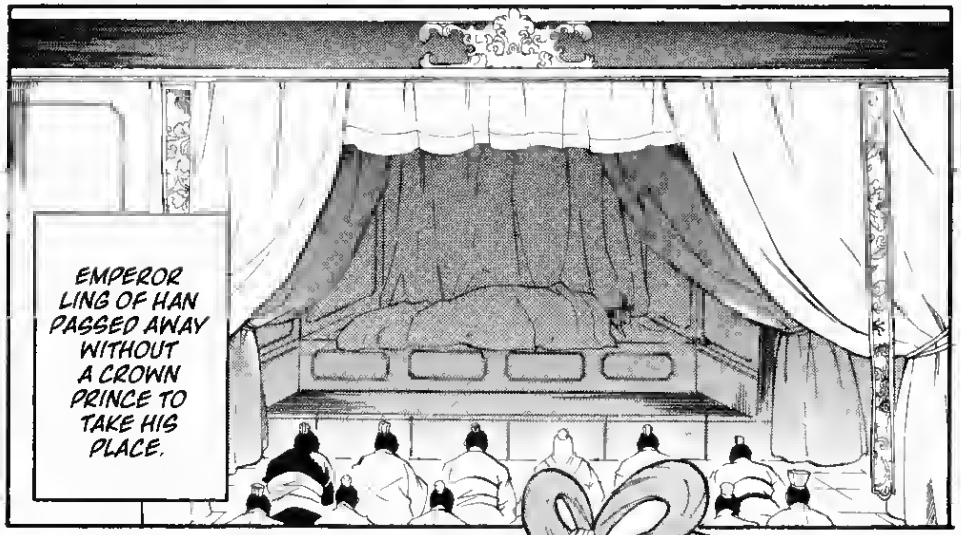
MY BROTHER WOULD BE SHOCKED IF I SUDDENLY BECAME A BOY!
No kidding!


THE HE FAMILY GAINED COMPLETE CONTROL OF THE IMPERIAL COURT.
USING THE INFLUENCE OF HIS SISTER, HE JIN BECAME A GREAT GENERAL, SEIZING CONTROL OF THE IMPERIAL ARMY




189 C.E., Luoyang.

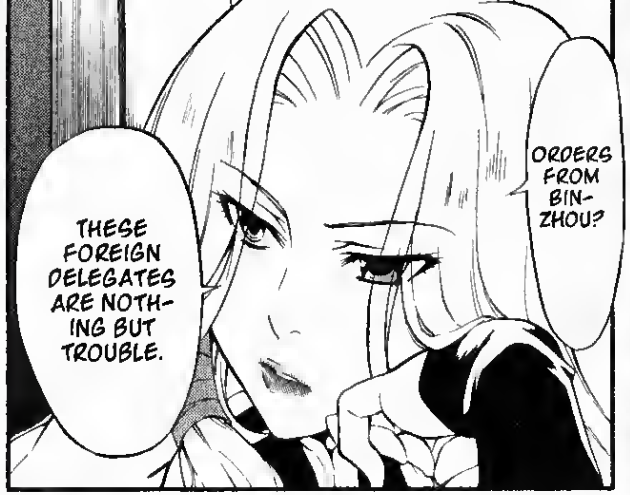
HE JIN, WHO RULED OVER THE IMPERIAL COURT, DECIDED HIS SISTER, LIU BIAN, WOULD BE INSTALLED AS THE NEW EMPRESS.
EMPEROR LING OF HAN HAD A CHILD WITH HIS CONCUBINE, LIU XIE, AND ANOTHER CHILD WITH EMPRESS HE, LIU BIAN.
THE EUNUCHS, DISPLEASED WITH HE JIN'S TYRANNY, PLANNED TO ASSASSINATE HIM.


EMPEROR LING OF HAN PASSED AWAY WITHOUT A CROWN PRINCE TO TAKE HIS PLACE.

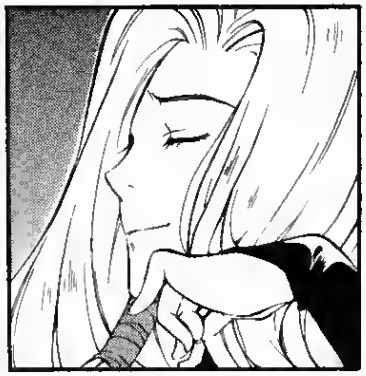
...BUT PUT HIMSELF DIRECTLY ABOVE HIS SISTER, THE EMPRESS.
AFTER THE POLITICAL QUARRELING FOLLOWING EMPEROR LING'S DEATH, THIS ONE ACT NOT ONLY GAVE HE JIN POWER OVER THE EUNUCHS, ROYALTY AND GENERALS—

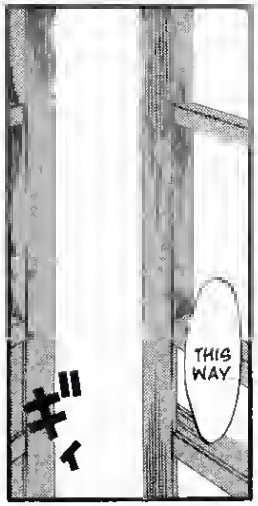
THE CONCUBINE, WHO HAD WON THE EMPEROR'S FAVOR, WAS POISONED BY EMPRESS HE
ONLY THE EMPEROR'S CONCUBINE AND EMPRESS HE REMAINED.

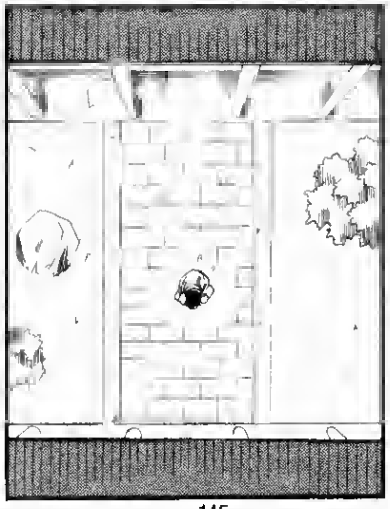
AW
IT'S SO HARD ON YOU.


ORDERS FROM BIN-ZHOU?
THESE FOREIGN DELEGATES ARE NOTHING BUT TROUBLE.

WHAT CAN YOU DO? BRING HIM IN.



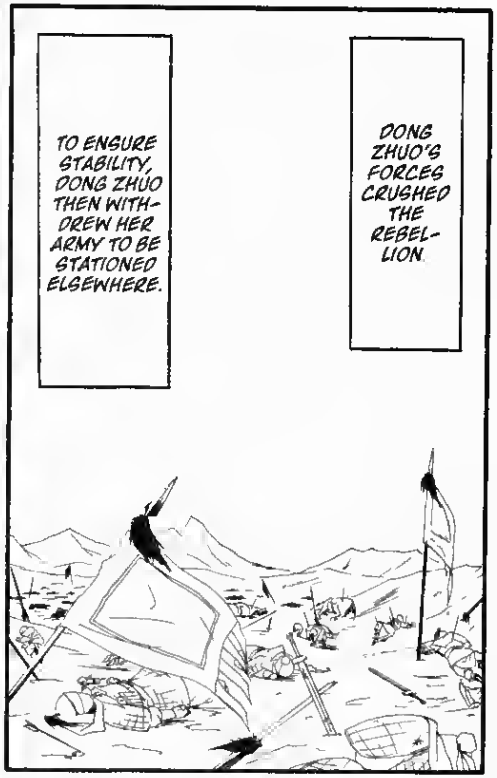

THIS WAY

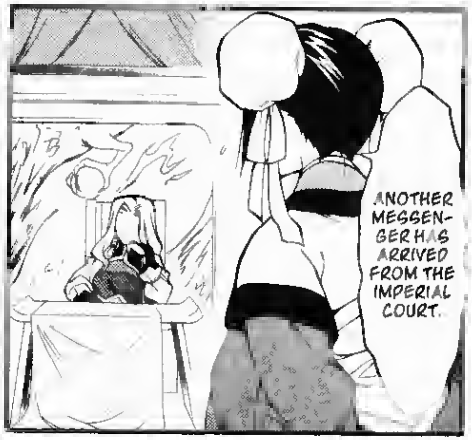


WHILE THE HUANG JIN WERE SUPPRESSED, LIANGZHOU TO THE NORTH BEGAN TO REBEL AGAINST THE IMPERIAL COURT.

Liang-zhou, Gansu

UM... LADY DONG ZHUO.

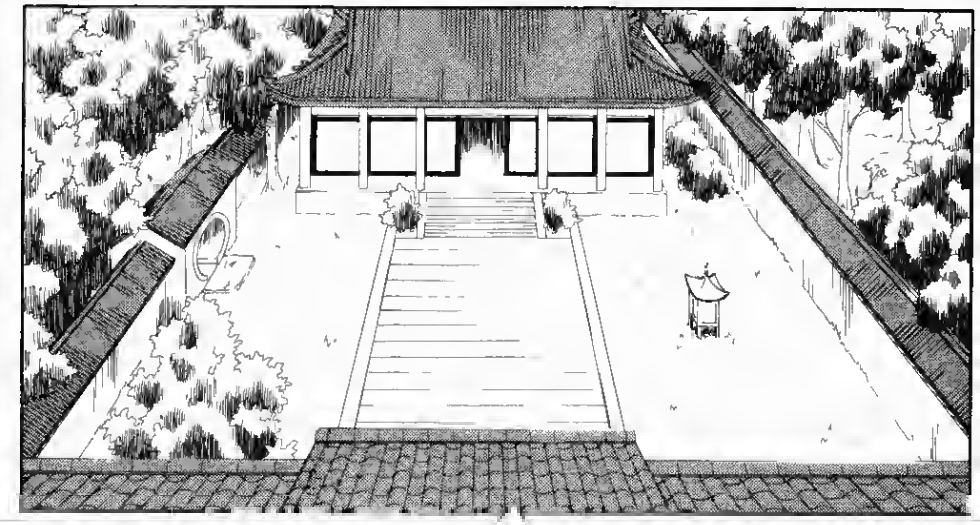

TO ENSURE STABILITY, DONG ZHUO THEN WITHDREW HER ARMY TO BE STATIONED ELSEWHERE.
DONG ZHUO'S FORCES CRUSHED THE REBELLION.


ANOTHER MESSENGER HAS ARRIVED FROM THE IMPERIAL COURT.

OUR POWER ALONE MAY NOT BE ENOUGH FOR THE CUNNING OF THE EUNUCHS.
HE JIN IS ASKING FOR OUR ASSISTANCE...
HE WISHES HIS ORDERS TO BE KNOWN, EVEN OUT HERE.
I CAN'T MISS THIS CHANCE TO GET MYSELF INTO THE RULING CLASS.
THERE'S NO WAY THAT UPSTART HE JIN COULD RULE OVER THE ENTIRE IMPERIAL COURT.
INTEREST-ING. WE'LL HEAD OUT IMMEDIATELY.
THAT'S NOT WHAT THIS IS ABOUT.
I KNOW YOU'VE TRAVELED FAR, BUT..
...I'M REALLY NOT IN THE MOOD.
ズ'ズ'
.....
GENERAL HE JIN HAS SENT ORDERS TO ELIMINATE THE EUNUCHS WITHIN THE IMPERIAL COURT.

I'VE BROUGHT TRAVELERS WHO ARE LOOKING FOR SOMETHING. I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT HELP?
THIS MAN IS LIU BEI.

NOW, NOW
WHAT ARE YOU SO EXCITED ABOUT?



OKAY
WHAT I WANTED TO ASK WAS

tak
I SEE. ASK ANYTHING YOU WISH.

DO YOU HAVE ANY INFORMATION ON THE ESSENTIAL ARTS OF PEACE?

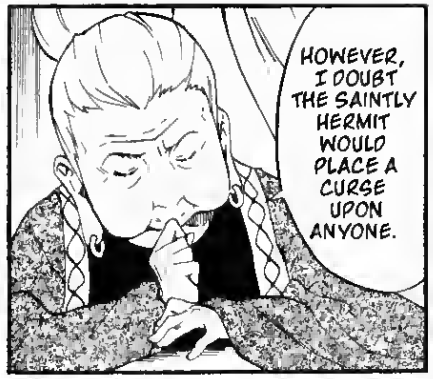
!!!
ELDER!

A HERMIT WHO SCRIBED THE CLASSICS OF GREAT PEACE.
HE IS AN AGELESS HERMIT WHO LIVES ON ANOTHER PLANE OF EXISTENCE.

IN ORDER TO BREAK A CURSE FROM THE ESSENTIAL ARTS OF PEACE..
...AND TO USE THEIR POWER FOR PEACE, WE NEED TO KNOW OF THEIR ORIGIN.

HMM...

.....
IT WAS ACTUALLY THE HUANG JIN WHO ACQUIRED THE SCROLLS AND CAST THE CURSE UPON US.


HOWEVER, I DOUBT THE SAINTLY HERMIT WOULD PLACE A CURSE UPON ANYONE.

THESE TWO WERE AFFECTED BY THE SPELL AND BORN AS WOMEN.
BUT THE EFFECTS WERE NOT LIMITED TO THEM...AND SPREAD ACROSS THE COUNTRY.

OH? ARE YOU THE ONES WHO ARE CURSED?

SAINTLY HERMIT?
SOUTH-ERN LAND?

ELDER, DO YOU KNOW ANY-THING?

THE ORIGINAL POSSESSOR WAS THE SAINTLY HERMIT OF THE SOUTHERN LAND.
WELL ...

...WASN'T WHAT HE WAS AIMING FOR.
THE HERMIT WASN'T EXPECTING THAT.
BUT, ZHANG JIAO'S TRUE WISH...
THE SAINTLY HERMIT OF THE SOUTHERN LANDS PREFERS THINGS TO EXIST IN THEIR NATURAL STATE.
MM-HM
THIS IS AN OLD TALE, BUT...
NATURAL AND PURE... HE PREACHES THIS AS BEING THE WILL OF THE HEAVENS.
AH!
AFTER INVOKING THE SPELL, THE SCROLLS WERE SCATTERED TO THE WINDS IN AN EXPLOSION.
THE HUANG JIN... THAT'S WHO HE FOUND.
THE DESIRES OF THE PEOPLE CAUSE THIS WORLD TO BE TORN APART...
...SO HE SEEKS TO GIVE POWER TO THOSE WHO WISH TO CORRECT THIS...
IF THAT'S TRUE, WE CAN'T USE THEM TO BRING ABOUT PEACE.
HEY! MAYBE WHEN THE SCROLLS EXPLODED...
...IT WAS TO PREVENT THEM BEING USED FOR MORE EVIL!
...SEARCHING FOR THE PEOPLE WHO TRY TO BRING PEACE TO THE WORLD.

THERE ARE MANY HEROES IN THIS WORLD, BUT...
...SO MANY ARE CONSUMED BY THEIR OWN GREED AND LUST FOR POWER.
YOU HAVE VERY RIGHTEOUS EYES.
SEARCHING ACROSS THIS LARGE NATION FOR THE SCROLLS IS A LIFELONG ENDEAVOR.
DO YOU HAVE THE STRENGTH TO COMPLETE THE JOURNEY TO ATTAIN PEACE?
!!
YOU ARE A DESCENDANT OF THE HAN?
YOU CAN REPAIR THE IMPERIAL COURT AND EASE THIS TROUBLED WORLD.
YOU HAVE ROYAL BLOOD WITHIN YOU, IS THAT CORRECT?
SIR LIU BEI...
.....
HA HA.
IT'S JUST THAT YOU BEAR THE NAME "LIU," SO...
OH, I'M JUST MESSING WITH YOU
WHAT DID YOU--

SO EXTINGUISHING FIRE WAS THE WILL OF HEAVEN.

HOWEVER, THE HUANG JIN WERE DEFEATED.
蒼天已死
黃天當立
歲在甲子天下大吉

IS THAT ALL RIGHT?

KNOWING THAT IN MY HEART HAS MADE ME FIGHT THIS WAR.
BUT I AM STILL JUST A WANDERER.

NOW THE IMPERIAL COURT DOES NOT HAVE THE POWER TO SUSTAIN ITS RULE...IT'S RIPE FOR THE ERA OF EARTH.
LUOYANG IS HEADED FOR MORE TURMOIL.

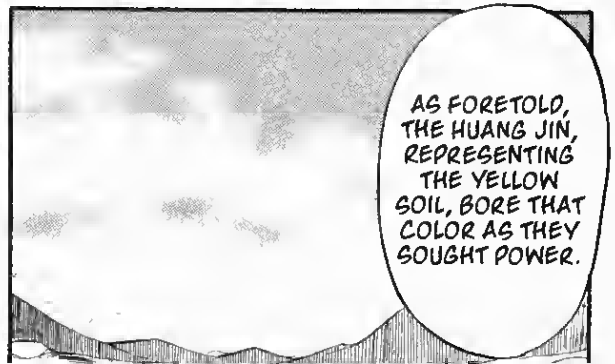
火
THE HAN DYNASTY IS FIRE.
NEXT SHOULD BE THE NATION OF EARTH.

火
木
土
ON THIS LAND, MANY NATIONS HAVE BEEN BORN AND DESTROYED.
THEIR FATES WERE GOVERNED BY THE FIVE ELEMENTS: WOOD, FIRE, EARTH, METAL AND WATER.

……?!

LIU BEI... IN ORDER TO BRING ABOUT A NEW ERA...
...YOUR TIME TO STEP FORWARD HAS COME.

……


AS FORETOLD, THE HUANG JIN, REPRESENTING THE YELLOW SOIL, BORE THAT COLOR AS THEY SOUGHT POWER.

Chapter Ten
INVASION, BLOOD AND FLAMES,
DONG ZHUO TAKES THE CAPITAL

!!
THE EUNUCHS HAVE BEEN KILLED!
GENERAL DONG ZHUO HAS SEIZED CONTROL OF THE IMPERIAL COURT!

LORD HE JIN, COULD IT BE A TRAP?

HMM

IT'S POSSIBLE THEY ARE ATTEMPTING TO ASSASSINATE YOU.
IT'S HARD TO IMAGINE, BUT I HEARD A RUMOR THAT THE EMPRESS DOWAGER HE IS WORKING WITH THE EUNUCHS

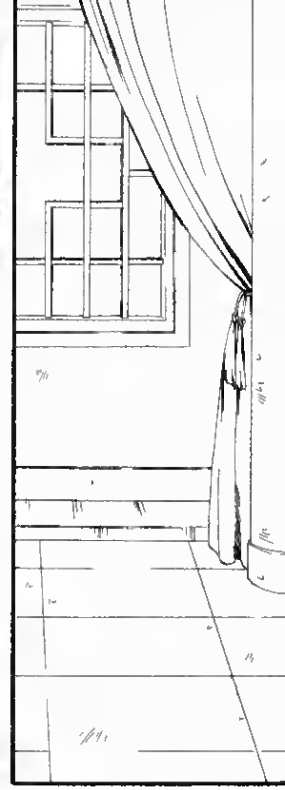
I WILL GO TO THE IMPERIAL COURT TOMORROW. PREPARE MY BEST STEED.
I HAVE NO REASON TO FEAR MY SISTER.

HA HA HA!
WHAT A STUPID IDEA-- WE'RE SIBLINGS! BOUND BY BLOOD!

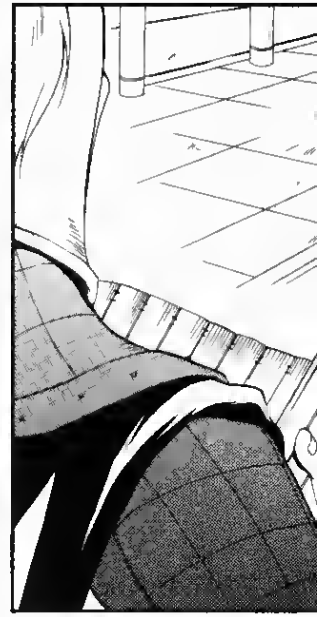
LORD HE JIN

WHAT? FROM MY SISTER?

THIS IS FROM THE EMPRESS DOWAGER HE.



I WANT TO SPEAK WITH YOU, BROTHER, BUT I CANNOT LEAVE HERE. PLEASE COME TO THE IMPERIAL COURT TOMORROW.
ARMED SOLDIERS HAVE ENTERED THE CENTER OF LUOYANG, BRINGING AN AIR OF TENSION LIKE NEVER BEFORE. SOMETHING HORRIBLE IS ABOUT TO HAPPEN, AND IT SCARES ME.

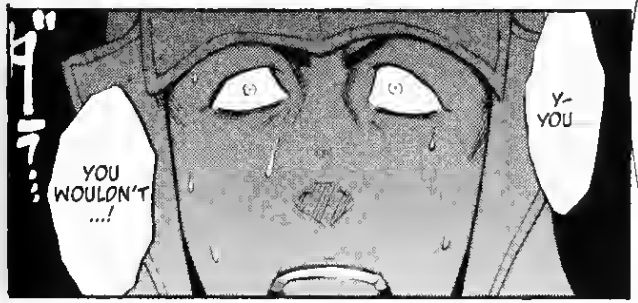


IT'S PROBABLY BEST IF WE JUST DENY KNOWING ANYTHING.
THE EUNUCHS ARE WORRIED SINCE THE ARMY'S BEEN CALLED IN...
INTERESTING...
ONLY YUAN SHAO AND YUAN SHU SERIOUSLY OPPOSE HE JIN AND THE EUNUCHS.
THAT FOOL IS GOING TO STROLL RIGHT INTO THE IMPERIAL COURT WITHOUT REALIZING THE DANGER.
IT APPEARS HE JIN HAS BEEN SUMMONED BY HIS SISTER.
Yuan Shu
Cao Cao
Yuan Shao
.....
DONG ZHUO HAS STATIONED HER TROOPS OUTSIDE THE CASTLE.
LOOK AT THE SITUATION! WE CAN COUNT ON THEM TO ACT!
SO THEY'RE PREPARING THEIR SOLDIERS FOR TOMORROW MORNING?
THAT'S RIGHT!
THE EUNUCHS MUST BE AWARE OF THIS
THE YUAN FAMILY WILL PREVAIL!

!
AAAAAAH!
THAT'S--!

DAMN!
IT WAS A TRAP SET BY THE EUNUCHS!
THE GREAT GENERAL HE JIN HAS BEEN BEHEADED!

NO, IT'S JUST... THEY'RE HERE WITH ME BECAUSE I'M RANKED AS A GENERAL
YOU OWE YOUR RANK, AND I MY PLACE AS EMPRESS DOWAGER, TO ZHANG RANG AND THE EUNUCHS


Y-YOU
"ダーク"
YOU WOULDN'T ...!

Next morning: The Imperial Court
BROTHER, IT SEEMS YOU HAVE CALLED YOUR FORCES HERE TO ANTAGONIZE THE EUNUCHS

ドドド

EVERY-ONE, LISTEN!
ARE YOU MAKING YOUR MOVE, YUAN SHAO?
THIS WAS PERPE-TRATED BY ZHANG RANG!
STRIKE AT THE ENEMY OF GENERAL HE JIN! KILL ALL THE EUNUCHS!
I-I'M NOT WITH...
GUAH!
アアアアアア

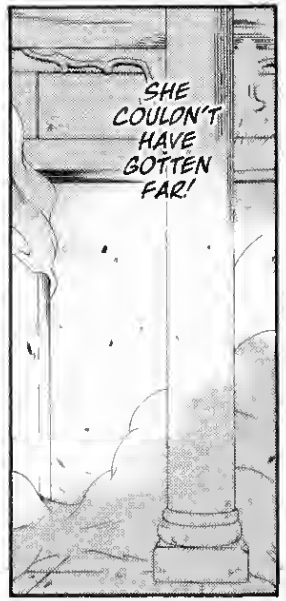
YUAN SHAO IS WIPING OUT THE EUNUCHS IN ONE FELL SWOOP.
FIRE! THE IMPERIAL COURT IS ON FIRE!
ゴォォォ
EVERYONE'S GOING TO BE FRANTICALLY SEARCHING FOR HER.
IT'S THE PERFECT CHANCE FOR ANYONE WHO WANTS TO SEIZE POWER.
BUT, LIKE HE JIN, HE WHO CONTROLS THE EMPRESS HOLDS THE POWER...!
YUAN SHAO HAS MADE A FLASHY ENTRANCE.
MENG-DE.
SHALL WE INVADE AS WELL?
... NO.
WE MUST FIND THE EMPRESS AND PROTECT HER.
SEARCH FOR THE EMPRESS.
WE'LL SEE HOW THIS ALL PLAYS OUT...

WELL, SHE'S...
SHE FLED OUT THE BACK WITH A EUNUCH...

IT'S NOT WHO DEFEATS THE EUNUCHS, BUT WHO CAPTURES THE EMPRESS.
SOMEONE BETTER FIND HER SOON.

IF WE DON'T HAVE HER, THE ENTIRE COUNTRY BECOMES OUR ENEMY!
DAMN... IF WE LOSE THE EMPRESS, WE'RE JUST A MERE REBEL ARMY.

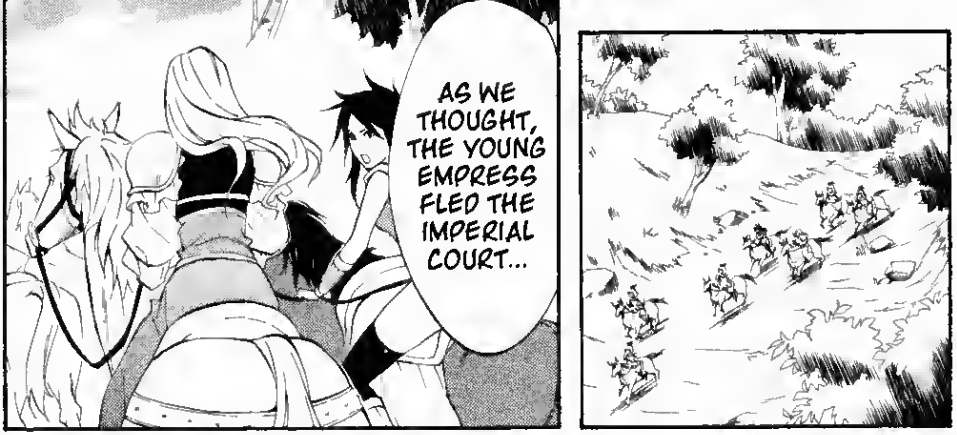
LET YUAN SHAO AND YUAN SHU TAKE CARE OF THINGS HERE. AND WE'LL PURSUE ZHANG RANG!
MOVE IT, EVERY-ONE!


SHE COULDN'T HAVE GOTTEN FAR!

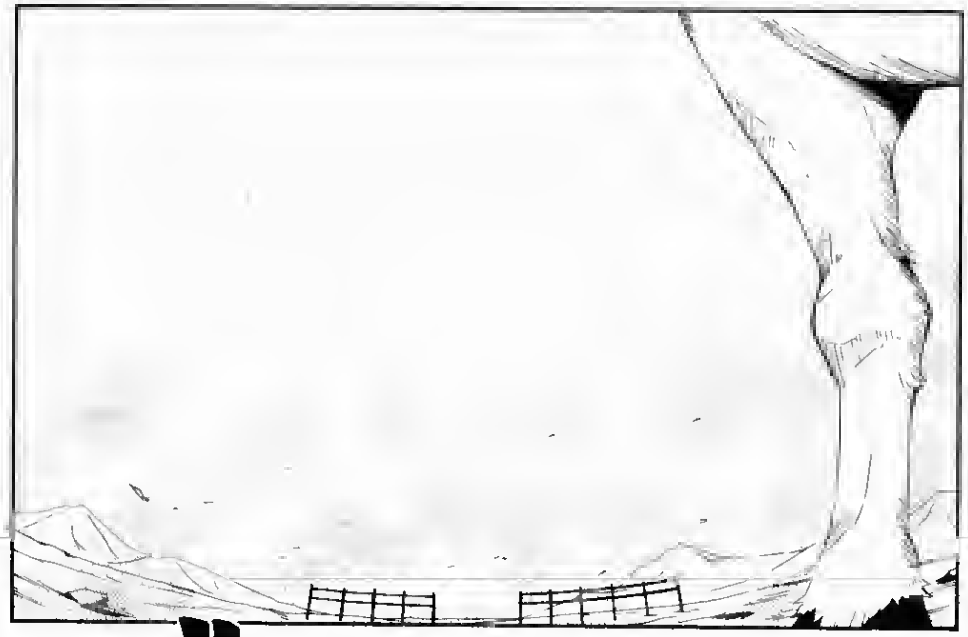
WHAT?!
WAS THE YOUNG EMPRESS WITH HER?!

MENGDE!
WE'VE FOUND THE EMPRESS DOWAGER!

ゴォォ
cough
cough
cough


AS WE THOUGHT, THE YOUNG EMPRESS FLED THE IMPERIAL COURT...

ALL RIGHT.
TO ESCAPE SAFELY, SHE MOST LIKELY TOOK THIS PATH.
SEARCH THROUGH THE GRASS AND BRUSH! FIND THE EMPRESS!



I HAVE TO GET TO THE EMPRESS BEFORE DONG ZHUO, NO MATTER WHAT!
DAMN THAT DONG ZHUO! SHE INTENDS TO SEIZE POWER!

gasp!
.....!!
DONG ZHUO'S ARMY ISN'T OUTSIDE THE CASTLE ANYMORE!

.....!!

SHOW YOURSELF.
WHOEVER'S THERE, COME OUT NOW!

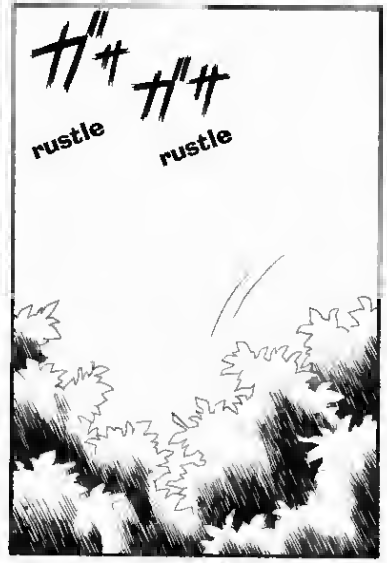
slash

WHO ARE YOU?!
MY NAME IS LIU XIE.

EITHER WAY, I INTEND TO GAIN CONTROL OVER THE IMPERIAL COURT. STILL, I NEVER EXPECTED THE YUAN FAMILY TO ATTACK SO HASTILY...

IF HE JIN ELIMINATES THE EUNUCHS, WE'LL STRIKE THE EUNUCHS' ENEMIES... IF HE JIN IS ASSASSINATED, WE'LL STRIKE AT THE ENEMIES OF HE JIN.
HOWEVER IT TURNS OUT, WE'VE GOT OUR FORCES SURROUNDING THE CASTLE.

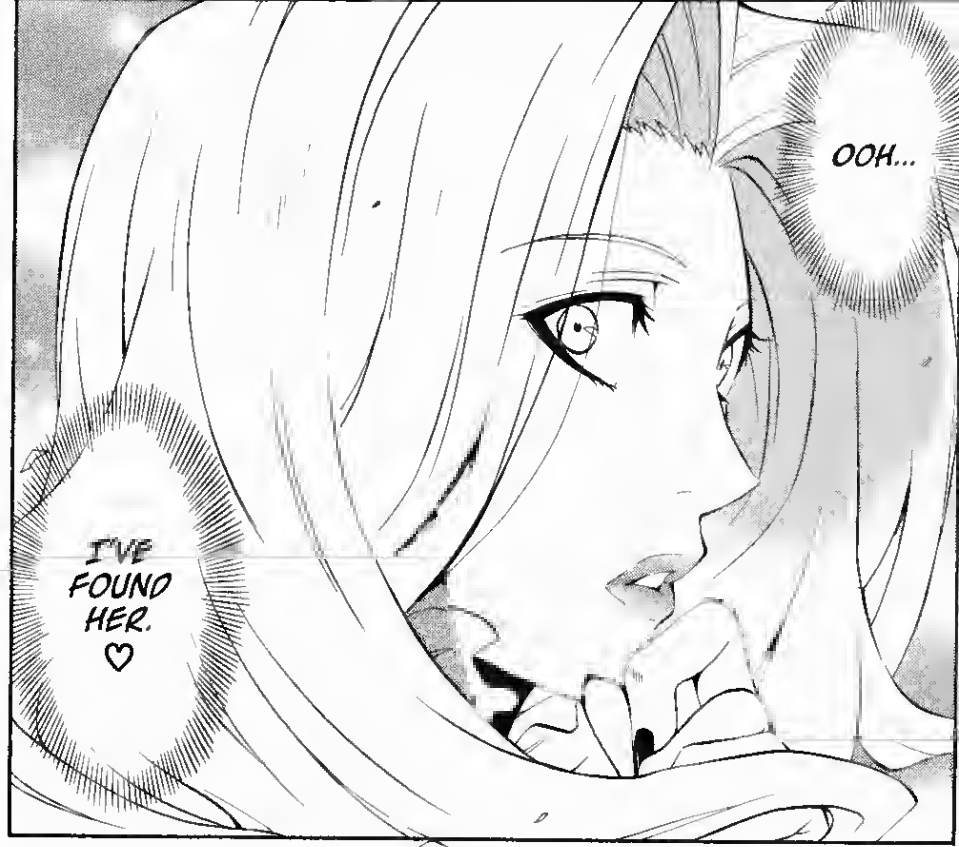
?


rustle
rustle

BUT HE'S JUST A BOY AFTER ALL... AND WHILE HE HAS HIS HANDS FULL WITH THE EUNUCHS...

THEN HOW DARE YOU CALL HER FROM HORSEBACK LIKE SOME LOST ANIMAL?!

I AM DONG ZHUO.
I HAVE BEEN TRAVELING ACROSS LIANGZHOU, SEEKING TO PROTECT THE EMPRESS.


OOH...
I'VE FOUND HER. ♡

HE JIN GAINED ALL HIS POWER THROUGH SUCH A YOUNG EMPRESS.
BUT A CHILD IS A CHILD, AND NOW SHE WILL BECOME MY PUPPET.

bow
I AM TRULY SORRY.

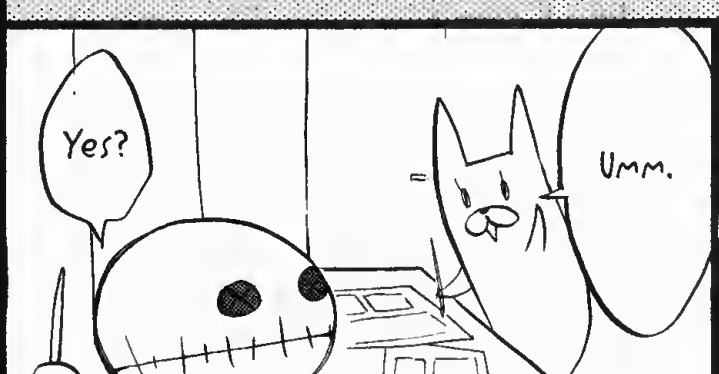
BE YOU FRIEND OR FOE OF THE EMPRESS?

Continued in Volume 3!

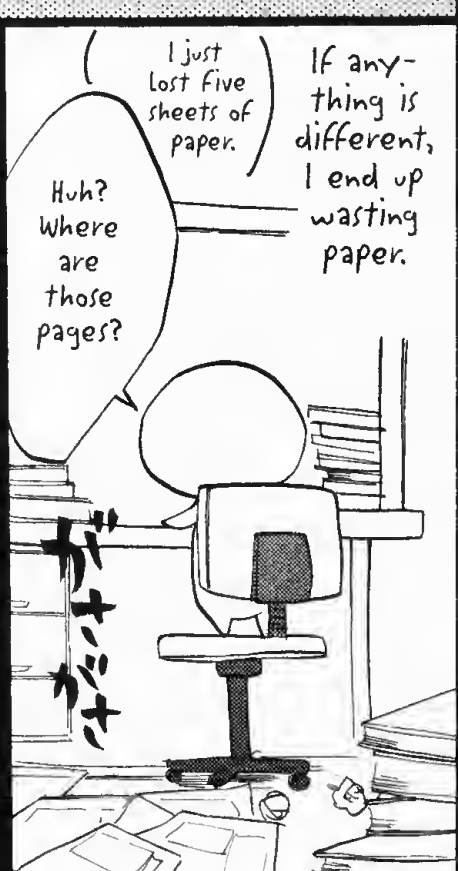
DRAGON SISTER!
ドラゴンシスター!
三國志百花繚乱

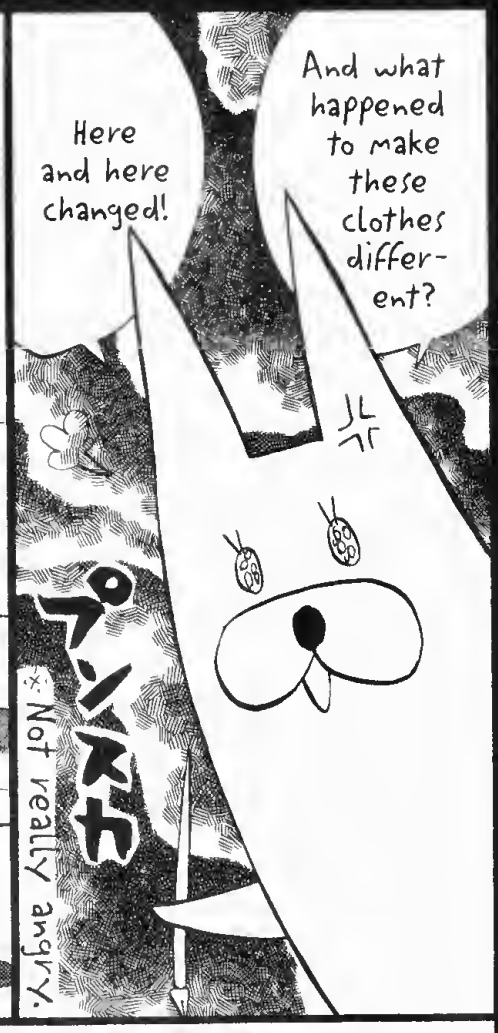
63
A3
A2
The hardest thing for me to draw consistently is people, but with careful planning I've managed to get down all the characters' clothing.

However!!



Earlier ...





•Many Thanks!•
Yanagisawa-san (backgrounds, tones)
E-da-san (editor)
M-no-san (lovely assistant).

And that's the way it is. It's a fun little game to find the mistakes I've made with clothing inconsistencies. ☆ ...Just kidding.

See you again in the next volume!

In the Next

dragon sister!

The beautiful but treacherous General Dong Zhuo has seized power in the imperial capital of Luoyang and now plots to kill the young Empress and replace her with a puppet. Liu Bei and his sworn sisters join Cao Cao and other army commanders to bring down the General, but is this noble cause only an excuse to sate the commanders' own lust for power?